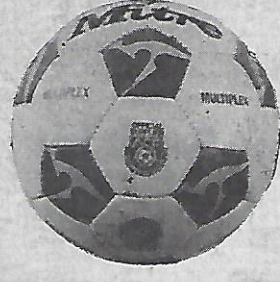


# National final lift-out, p.8 & 9



# SOCCER ACTION

JUGOSLOVENSKA  
SCENA:15

VIVA ITALIA:14

ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΑ ΝΕΑ  
ΣΕΛΙΣ:15

Vol. 9, No. 39 WEDNESDAY, 24 OCTOBER, 1984 603 Little Lonsdale Street, Melbourne Phone: (03) 605 4257/58 (editorial) (03) 605 4259 (advertising) \$1.10 recommended price only

## GIANTS CLASH

Greek giants South Melbourne Hellas and Sydney Olympic could set new attendance records for NSL club soccer when they clash tonight (Wednesday) at Olympic Park and again on Sunday at St. George Stadium in the national championship.

Hellas is attempting to win the national championship for the first time and write itself into the record books as the first Victorian club to do so. Olympic also is chasing a national championship first.

But there's much more than just championship glory at stake here. To any Greek soccer fan, pride is important, and to these two teams the title of Australia's greatest Greek club is up for grabs.

Olympic already has been through the drama of a home and away final, having beaten Heidelberg Alexander 1-0 in Sydney and 1-0 in Melbourne in the National Cup final last year.

Hellas goes into the national final boasting the league's top scorer of 1984 - Doug Brown. He's already won a return trip to Europe, the prize for winning our VSF Travel Club award as leading National Conference scorer, and last



Doug Brown

weekend Brown also won our Boral Bricks \$1,000 award as top scorer in both the National and Australian Conferences.

Brown and Sydney Makosh striker John Keating were level with 20 goals each going into the final. Brown scored twice to give Hellas a 3-1 win against Croatia while Keating failed to

score in Makosh's two final appearances. It's the second year running that Brown has won our prestigious Boral Bricks award.

What an imposing battery of attacking power we have in this national final - Brown, Egan, Murphy and Crino of Hellas, and Saper, Koussas, Petikas and Theodoropoulos of Olympic. And two of the outstanding young talents in Australian soccer - John Kanesoulis of Hellas and Chris Kallitzi of Olympic - might not even be in the starting line-ups!

Surely the critics of the top five finals series finally have been silenced.

The NSL chiefs hoped that the final would be the highlight of the season and their prayers have been answered in style. The quality of the last two Q2S 'Match of the Day' shows was excellent, especially last Sunday's show.

Of course, that reflects the quality of the grand finale in the National and Australian Conferences. They were great spectacles.

The national final should provide just as many thrills and spills.

Come on Hellas! Come on Olympic! Let's go out with a bang!

- CRAIG MACKENZIE

## Watch for our Team of Year next week

"Soccer Action" will name its 1984 NSL Team of the Year, according to votes gained in our Boral Bricks award, in next week's issue.

A yearly feature that distinguishes the leading players in each position, our Team of the Year will be presented as a two-page lift-out poster. It will be "Soccer Action's" last issue of 1984.

We'll be back in late January next year, bigger and brighter than ever, but watch out for our "National Soccer Annual", which goes on sale on February 12, 1985 and gives a most authoritative wrap-up of season 1984 with every State federation in Australia represented.

Our "National Soccer Annual" sells for \$1.50.

It's been a big year for Australian soccer and a big year for us. We've had World Series soccer, we've had championships won and lost, we've had cup finals decided and we've got the Socceroos' world tour about to kick off. Of course, our under-23's are in Singapore, defending the Meriton Cup (see page 4).

We've had Frank Ark replace Les Scheinflug as national coach, we've had the NSL threatening to ban its players from playing for the national team, there's the ongoing saga of what the NSL format will be in 1986 and we're all still wondering just which teams will eventually be relegated from this year's conferences and which teams will take their places.

And amid the joy of winning, the pain of losing, the internal squabbles, the personal glory of winning awards, the sacking, the transfers, the rumors, we've brought you all the news and views from around Australia.

We'll continue to provide the most comprehensive coverage of Australian soccer in 1985.

We thank the many advertisers who have supported us this year, many of whom have been with us for some years now.

To our advertisers, to our many readers, to every soccer fan in Australia, we wish you all the best for the coming festive season and look forward to Australian soccer, 1985 style.

## Centenary World Cup kicks off on November 11

Two of the pre-tournament favorites - England and Scotland - have been paired together in Group D of the VSF Centenary World Cup which kicks off on Sunday, November 11.

State League and National League venues will be used to stage the tournament which culminates in a double header at Middle Park on Sunday, December 2, when the final will be preceded by a play-off for third and fourth place.

There are 16 "nations" competing, all sponsored by VSF clubs. These "nations" have been split into four groups of four and the preliminary rounds of the tournament will be played on a round robin basis. From the quarter-final stage, the tournament will be run along knock-out lines.

GROUP A: Croatia, Italy, Turkey, Hungary.

GROUP B: Macedonia, Australia, Ireland, Hispania.

GROUP C: Greece, Malta, Cyprus, Poland.

GROUP D: England, Scotland, Yugoslavia, Netherlands.

Here is the full draw:

November 11

AT PARTIDGE RESERVE: Italy v Hungary, followed by Croatia v Turkey.

GROUP B, at Connor Reserve: Australia v Hispania, followed by Macedonia v Ireland.

GROUP C, at Chaplin Reserve: Malta v Poland, followed by Greece v Cyprus.

GROUP D, at Egan Lee Reserve: Scotland v Netherlands, followed by England v Yugoslavia.

November 14

GROUP A: Italy v Turkey at Partidge Reserve; Croatia v Hungary at Smith Reserve, Fawkner.

GROUP B: Australia v Ireland at Green Gully Reserve; Macedonia v Hispania at Connor Reserve.

GROUP C: Malta v Cyprus at Chaplin Reserve; Greece v Poland at Middle Park.

GROUP D: Scotland v Yugoslavia at Wembley Park; Box Hill; England v Netherlands at Jubilee Park, Ringwood.

November 18

AT GREEN GULLY RESERVE: Turkey v Hungary, followed by Croatia v Italy.

GROUP B, at Green Gully Reserve: Ireland v Hispania, followed by Macedonia v Australia.

GROUP C, at Middle Park: Cyprus v Poland, followed by Greece v Malta.

GROUP D, at Wembley Park: Yugoslavia v Netherlands, followed by England v Scotland.

November 22

AT GREEN GULLY RESERVE: Winner of Group A v runner-up of Group B.

AT COMMON RESERVE: Winner of Group B v runner-up of Group A.

AT CHAPLIN RESERVE: Winner of Group C v runner-up of Group D.

AT JUBILEE PARK: Winner of Group D v runner-up of Group C.

November 25

AT GREEN GULLY RESERVE: Winner of Green Gully Reserve quarter-final v winner of Chaplin Reserve quarter-final.

At Egan Lee Reserve: Winner of Connor Reserve quarter-final v winner of Jubilee Park quarter-final.

December 2

At Middle Park: Play-off for third and

# 'Cross, Fawkner vie for NSL

Victorian State League club Fawkner and relegated National Conference club Sunshine-George Cross are definite candidates for NSL berths next season.

Victorian State League champions Morwell Falcons still are undecided about applying for NSL admission while fellow State League clubs Polonia and Box Hill filed verbal broadsides at the NSL and won't be applying for admission.

Fawkner president Greg Schipano, although critical about the uncertainty surrounding the NSL formats for 1985 and 1986, believes that his club's application for admission will be looked on favorably by the NSL chiefs.

"We are the club in Melbourne that really represents the Italian community. Our colors are the Italian national colors and since our formation we have attracted many thousands of Italians to our games," said Schipano.

Fawkner already boasts sponsorship in excess of \$50,000.

Its average home attendance this year has only been about 900 but Schipano is adamant that the club could average a home gate of 3,000 in the NSL.

"Remember too, that if we are admitted to the league, then there will be two Italian clubs in the National Conference - ours and Brunswick Juventus. When we played Juventus at our ground in the State League last year there were 6,200 people at the game. With us and Juventus competing against each other there would be tremendous interest among the Italian community and every game would be a big derby."

Sunshine-George Cross decided at a committee meeting last week to re-apply for admission to the National Conference. President Alf Zahra says that his club is better placed than any other candidate to perform well in the National Conference next season.

"We've spent over \$250,000 this year and we're only three top-class players away from having a really good side. We're already in touch with a top striker from the Scottish First Division because we're determined to make an all-out bid next

Sunshine-George Cross earned \$76,000 from home games this season. Zahra reckons that gate money from home games will at least double next year provided the club has a winning side. He dismissed the candidature of Morwell and Fawkner as inferior to that of Sunshine-George Cross.

"Okay, so Morwell has good facilities, but is that what it's all about? Do we want another Green Gully in the league where you end up with just one busload of people going to away games and that includes the players?"

"And is it such a good idea to admit Fawkner and have two Italian teams in the same league? I don't think so. Anyway, how many people did Fawkner attract to its State League games this year? Morwell too, for that matter?"

Morwell president Don Di Fabrizio, like his Fawkner counterpart Schipano, was very critical of the NSL chiefs.

"If we knew definitely what was happening with the National League next year and in 1986, then we could decide whether

or not to apply for admission," said Di Fabrizio.

"But how can any club buy a product when they don't know what they're buying? If the National League doesn't know what it's doing, how can we know what we should do? The National League so far has shown itself to be so disorganised that we simply can't make a decision about our future."

Box Hill president Martin Hopper and Polonia vice-president John Paier were scathing in their rebuffs to the NSL.

"Because of the total ineptitude of the NSL and the ASF we certainly won't be applying for admission to the National Conference," said Hopper.

"Perhaps I'm being a bit unfair to the NSL here because I really believe that all the problems concerning the league could be resolved by the ASF. I've even heard talk recently that the NSL is thinking about changing its proposed format for next year. That's incredible. What's going on?"

"NSW of course, is laughing at the rest

## Kiwis want to take on Australia's best

By PAUL MOON

The 1984 NSL title winner, whoever it may be, can anticipate a challenge from the runaway New Zealand champion, Gisborne City.

Gisborne coach Kevin Fallon told me: "We are very, keen to take on the Aussie champions, preferably next February. Gisborne is an ambitious club and, having proven ourselves best in New Zealand, we want to become best in Australasia."

The concept of a Trans-Tasman challenge trophy is, of course, not new. It was contested in 1978, when Mount Wellington and Marconi drew 1-1 in Auckland. That game is remembered as among the best staged in New Zealand.

Unfortunately, subsequent matches have been impossible due to fixture congestion and financial considerations.

Fallon envisages two games, home and away, with both clubs retaining their home gate receipts.



Turner Fallon

feasible for their would-be opponents. Fallon replied: "The Aussies consider themselves experts in the promotions field. Surely they can get people interested in a game to determine Oceania's best club. If a Sydney team were involved, it could count on the city's large Kiwi population for support."

However, even if gate money from their home leg is not sufficient to tempt the Australians, Gisborne's promotions secretary, Rod Husband who has a remarkable record in attracting sponsors, is confident of securing a financial backer for the two games.

If satisfactory financial guarantees are forthcoming, there appears to be no reason why Australia's champions should

of Australia because they've virtually got a State League set-up in the Australian Conference."

Polonia's executive recently voted against applying for NSL admission. Paier said that the club would dearly love to go into the league provided major changes were made to its format and to the system of promotion and relegation.

"Polonia wants to see just one league of say 12 or 14 teams at the NSL level, with one club, the bottom club, relegated and a system of play-offs between State champions instituted to decide the club to be promoted," said Paier.

"The biggest tragedy to happen in Australian soccer this year was for Melita Eagles to be relegated from the Australian Conference after finishing nine points ahead of the bottom club, Wollongong. As far as I'm concerned, Wollongong should have been relegated and that's the end of the matter. What are we playing at in this country by having a promotion and relegation set-up which isn't directly related to team performance?"

"Most NSL clubs appear to have a lukewarm attitude to the traditional pre-season tournaments and two highly competitive games before the 1985 kick-off, with the possibility of a prestigious title and trophy thrown in, may appeal as a better proposition."

Gisborne has the credentials to be worthy opposition for Australia's top dogs. Four of its players - Sam Byrne, Peter Simonsen, Grant Turner and Colin Walker - are in the New Zealand squad touring Britain, while a fifth, Kenny Cresswell, almost certainly would have been included had he made himself available.

The prospect of having a first look at Byrne (a former League of Ireland representative) and Walker (once a Barnsley professional, the 1984 Rothmans' New Zealand National League leading goalscorer and "Footballer of the Year"), both of whom are likely to be key men in the All Whites' World Cup campaign, should also appeal to Australian soccer fans.

The New Zealand Football Association already has given its informal approval for the games to take place and although the ASF will not be approached until Australian champions are known, the Kiwis



# A SHOT OF ADRENALIN?

It isn't easy to say for someone whose heart is with Hakoah Sydney, but soccer in the premier State probably will receive a much-needed boost from Olympic's win last Sunday.

The incredible enthusiasm of the Greek club's crowd, as well as its sheer size, is something our code sorely needs. Now the challenge is for other clubs to aim at optimising their support on the terraces. When that happens this great game will be the better for it.

## Prayers

It was almost a religious experience sitting through the Australian Conference grand final.

On my left, the national coach, Frank Ark, to whom I just pray that none of my squad members get hurt.

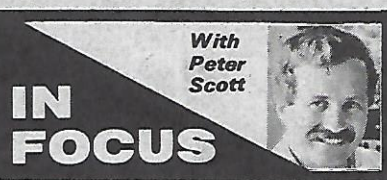
In front the Reverend Michael Deutsch of Sydney's Temple Emmanuel, who was doing what he knew best, seeking heavenly intercession on behalf of his beloved Hakoah when things were running

against them on the field of play.

Qualifications notwithstanding, Ark did better in this department than the good Reverend. All the Socceros got through unscathed, while Hakoah had to concede victory to the better team on the day.

## Nice guy

Olympic president Jim Pettinella had tears in his eyes after the dramatic win by his boys and nobody begrudges his joy. Big Jim is a real gentleman and



an ornament to the game of soccer.

## Record

The calmest person in the Olympic locker room at the end was coach Manfred Schaefer, albeit much relieved to have done what he least expected, come out on top after being one down in extra time.

But, just stop and think for a moment: the old "Iron Man" is

With Peter Scott

probably looking at a place in soccer's version of the Guinness Book of Records. You don't believe me? How many other coaches have lasted as long as he has with Olympic — or its predecessor Pan Hellenic — or achieved anything near the success he has?

## Gracious

There was no joy in the Hakoah camp after the loss, but everyone was gracious

in accepting defeat from clearly the better squad on the day.

There was also quiet satisfaction at the achievements in a year which has seen the acceleration of the team's transition into a younger, new-look outfit.

And, yes, there was a sense of determination among the Hakoah players, to do even better next season.

With a potent striking force including not just the hard-as-nails John Kosmina and the fast maturing Grant Lee, but also wing-footed Socceroo Frank Farina in 1985, rival clubs have been put on notice.

## Long rest

Once the Socceroo tour is over our stars will start a well-earned summer rest following an inordinately long season.

Steve O'Connor's break probably will be longer than that of

the others. Sunday's yellow card means he will cop an automatic three-match suspension at the start of next season.

## Sour note

Just one final sour note from an otherwise memorable day.

Olympic, at the peak of its prowess, deserves better care for its reputation and image than what is provided by a hooligan element among its supporters.

Week after week this year, the mob element has spat at opponents, threw objects at opposing players and coaches, intimidated and even occasionally assaulted members of opposing teams' families in the stands.

I'm hopeful and confident that the inciters and trouble-makers — who are very easily identifiable — will be isolated and eliminated from the body of what could develop into one of

this country's greatest soccer clubs.

The many decent Greek fans deserve better than to be besmirched by the thugs, cowards and racists who hide among them.

## 'New' name?

Is the Sydney City pseudonym under which Hakoah is playing to be confined to a well-deserved place in the dustbin of soccer history?

We'll know more after today's (Wednesday's) meeting of the club's supporters, when changing back to the traditional name is to be debated.

President Frank Lowy, no longer a friend of soccer within the club, is expected to come out in favor of the present meaningless and unpopular tag. It will be interesting to see what the rest of the members think.

# It's third time unlucky for Eddie Thomson

SYDNEY OLYMPIC 2 (Soper 105th, Coady 114th) SYDNEY CITY HAKOAH 1 (O'Connor 99th) at St George Stadium. Crowd: 13,866. Australian Conference grand final. Referee: Chris Bambridge. 9. Cautions: O'Connor, Barnes, Kosmina, Dakos

**SYDNEY OLYMPIC:** Meier 8, — Rogers 8 (Soper 63rd, 8), Dakos 8, Coady 9, Jennings 8, — Phillips 9, Raskopoulos 8, Katholos 8, Rafikas 8, — Theodorakopoulos 7, Koussas 7 (Kallantzis 96th). Coach: Manfred Schaefer.

**HAKOAH:** Pezzano 7, — Gomez 6, Robertson 8, O'Connor 8, De Marigny 7 (K. Falconer 78th, 8), — Kay 7, Barnes 8, Watson 7, P. Falconer 6 (Fletcher 66th, 5) — Lee 7, Kosmina 6. Coach: Eddie Thomson.

Eddie Thomson, Hakoah's most successful coach, lost his third grand final in as many attempts.

Following the debacle against Heidelberg in Canberra (0-4) in 1980, then defeat at the hands of St George at Penrith (1-3) in 1982, Hakoah suffered its third loss in as many attempts when beaten by eager Sydney Olympic after a drama-packed 120 minutes at St. George Stadium last Sunday.

And there was nothing the losers could do to stop this fast running Sydney Olympic machine. Sure Hakoah tried, but without cohesion and plan, relying mainly on its experienced players and some enthusiastic tackling to get a result.

Its defence, led by Alex Robertson, was at its worst for many a day and had Olympic taken its chances the game would have been over long before extra time. Robertson stood tall amongst his fellow defenders. He had an abundance of help from Steve O'Connor but the

rest of this defensive wall was shaky.

Gerry Gomez was in all sorts of trouble. He gave away possession immediately after the start of the second period, and only could watch helplessly as Nick Theodorakopoulos faced Tony Pezzano. The Olympic forward beat the keeper but Robertson was on hand to clear.

And while Thompsonson only could reflect upon past successes and rue the moment the NSL decided to use the play-offs to decide the championship, one must congratulate a new coaching star in Manfred Schaefer of Olympic.

He kept his top forward, Marshall Soper, on the bench for more than an hour, then slotted in the ball striker in place of Martyn Rogers in the 63rd, sensing that the time was ripe for Soper to use his speed and shooting power.

And Soper almost repaid his coach with a goal or two soon after. He was on hand to sneak behind the Hakoah defence in the 86th then beat Pezzano with his lob but the ball just missed the upright. Sensing victory, Olympic was in great touch during the second period but missed an awful lot of chances.

Its best first half opportunity came to Peter Katholos. After 23 minutes, Katholos made space inside the box then left footed the ball hard as Pezzano came out. Pezzano's reflex action just tipped the ball around the post. Some seven minutes later, Katholos was on the break with four team mates screaming for the ball and only Robertson to beat. Katholos tried a through



Alex Vesic

Man of the Match: MIKE COADY (Syd. Olympic)

ball but managed to find Robertson instead his own players.

Olympic's second half effort netted all but goals in front of the best Sydney crowd of the season and a record crowd for St. George Stadium. A Raskopoulos drive just missed the upright in the 51st, then Jim Patikas beat three defenders before shooting sky-high with another Olympic player free and screaming for the ball.

Raskopoulos and Katholos combined to send Patikas forward but yet again that telling final pass by Patikas to Mark Koussas was off the mark.

Then came extra time and still Olympic continued to come forward. Hakoah, relying on break-aways, hoped to find the head of John Kosmina or the feet of fast running Grant Lee, but to little avail for almost 100 minutes.

Then came a corner kick on the left hand side, Hakoah's fifth of the match. Joe Watson took the kick, Murray Barnes flicked it on and O'Connor simply glided home his header from close range.

How often have you seen this? Hakoah is at its best from set-play situations and this was just another example.

Olympic refused to accept defeat and came back strongly. Chris Kallantzis almost scored after 104 minutes with a fine header, then a minute later came a great move by Olympic and led to the goal of the match. Katholos won possession in midfield, pushed his pass to Raskopoulos, who in turn found Patikas running goalwards. Patikas was going to go solo, but faced with two opponents, pushed it wide to Theodorakopoulos who crossed for Soper to head past Pezzano.

There was no stopping Olympic then!

Two minutes later, Soper made a fine break to find Patikas who ran into the area and at an angle. He decided to flick the ball with his heel missing it completely with Pezzano backpedalling.

With only six minutes of extra time remaining, Olympic struck again. Katholos took his 15th corner kick by floating it

to the far post for Tony Dakos to head towards Patikas, whose shot on the turn rebounded off Pezzano straight to Mike Coady who headed past the Hakoah keeper. Pezzano managed to get a touch to the ball, deflecting it past his own defenders and into the net.

Celebrations erupted at St. George Stadium as referee Chris Bambridge signalled the end of play. Players were carried all over the placing, with Katholos, firmly clutching the Cup, the first ever league championship for this Sydney outfit.

Olympic's dressing room overflowed with champagne while this huge crowd gave vent to its feelings. Coach Schaefer was elated with the win but insisted that he "knew that his players could do it."

"We planned to mark Hakoah players tightly for set-play situations, and we knew that we would be good for a couple of goals. We should have scored more, but I am happy with the two that we did score," said Schaefer.

The Hakoah dressing room was a sad place.

My sympathy goes to the man who won the premiership only to lose the championship in one single match, but it is something Eddie Thomson will have to get used to.

## Crime count

Hakoah gave away 27 free kicks, while Sydney Olympic only conceded 14. Yellow cards were handed to Barnes, O'Connor and Kosmina for Sydney City while Dakos of Olympic received a yellow card late in the match.

I felt that referee Bambridge was a little harsh in booking Dakos.

The Olympic defender was given a yellow card for time-wasting when Olympic was a goal up with six minutes to go. The same did not apply to Gomez and Pezzano some 15 minutes earlier when Hakoah led 1-0 and the two players had a long, long discussion about a goal-kick!

But Bambridge had a fine match overall and could have easily given a few more yellow cards but those that he gave were well deserved. It was the second time this year that Bambridge has been in charge of these two sides. On the last occasion he had booked five Hakoah players and two players from Olympic. Kosmina is the only player to get a yellow card in both matches.

## How they performed

Gary Meier is the most under-rated goalkeeper in the land. Maybe it is high time he turned on a few theatrics, rather than being just a solid goalkeeper. It is a matter of ur-



Sydney Olympic striker Marshall Soper. His goal in extra time last Sunday revived Olympic's hopes in the Australian Conference grand final against Hakoah.

gency that this man is given more credit than so far offered. Take note, Mr. Ark!

Rogers is the surprise packet of this Olympic side. "I took him off the park for a simple reason. Feeling that penalties might be coming up, plus the fact that Theodorakopoulos can play in defence and stop Hakoah from its set-play situations I decided to switch Nick for Martyn and put Marshall Soper up front. But there is no way Rogers is not going to play on Wednesday night!" said Schaefer, who described Rogers as "the most improved player at Olympic!"

Graham Jennings has been my choice as best fullback in Australia for many years and he con-

tinued to impress me after Sunday's game. Coady completely nullified Kosmina, while Dakos showed once again what potential he has and must be included in Australia's future plans.

Raskopoulos played a captain's "innings", while Katholos showed up the horrible shortcomings of Hakoah's midfield. And while speedy Patikas must come to terms with the fact that passing the ball is not an offence, Gary Phillips once again caught the eye with his non-stop performance.

Theodorakopoulos showed a lot of speed but battled against the odds, often confronted by three or four opponents.

Now onto Hakoah.

Pezzano made a couple

of fine saves but also was caught in no-man's-land on a few occasions. Gerardo Gomez and Jean-Paul De Marigny have been sound in defence for most of the season but could not hope for much praise from their coach after last Sunday's effort.

Neither showed their usual attacking flair, adding to the problems of their shaky defence.

However, Robertson was in great touch and was ably supported by O'Connor.

It was Hakoah's midfield that never came to terms with Olympic's speedsters. Barnes was his usual solid self, and had some support from Paul Kay. However Joe Watson and Peter Falconer failed to produce the goods.

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# Yankos sent off, Crino leads Hellas to glory

**SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS 4 (Crino 60th, 84th, Davidson 16th, Yzendoorn 80th) HEIDELBERG ALEXANDER 2 (Petersen 7th, Stevenson 39th). National Conference grand final at Olympic Park, Sunday. Crowd: about 15,000. Cautions: Yankos, Crino. Sent off: Yankos 47th. Referee: Doug Rennie G.**

**SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS:** Laumets 7 — Russell 7, Yzendoorn 8, Blair 8, Postecoglou 7 — Davidson 6 (Kane 80th, Halford 7, Crino 8, Murphy 6 — Egan 7, Brown 6. Coach: Len Mackenzie.

**HEIDELBERG ALEXANDER:** Oliver 7 — Yankos 8 (sent off 47th) — McKie 7, Macleod 7, Angelo 7, Marley 7 — Selemidis 6, Petersen 7, Valentine 7 (Tasios 83rd) — Winn 6 (Patterson 83rd), Stevenson 6. Coach: Brian Garvey.

**Hail Hellas!** The side that proved itself over 28 rounds of the home and away season, yet was forced to do it all over again in a couple of finals matches, finally has been acknowledged by the NSL as the champion of the National Conference.

And Heidelberg and Soceroo sweeper Charlie Yankos must take some of the credit for this Hellas victory. It was an ill-timed Yankos challenge on Hellas star Oscar Crino two minutes into the second half which reduced Heidelberg to 10 men and greatly reduced its chance of holding onto its slender 2-1 lead.

Yankos has been booked in the first half and when he scythed down Crino in the 47th minute, Sydney-based referee Doug Rennie gave him a red card. At the time I thought Crino made a meal of it. But when I saw the incident on 0/28's "Match of the Day" show later on Sunday night, it was obvious that Yankos came in far too late yet went right on with a tackle which threatened to knock the top off Crino's kneecaps.

But what about the way the Hellas players surrounded referee Rennie, pleading for Yankos's expulsion? How utterly pathetic. It even rubbed off on a couple of Heidelberg players later in the match.

Heidelberg coach Brian Garvey had this to say about the sending off of Yankos:

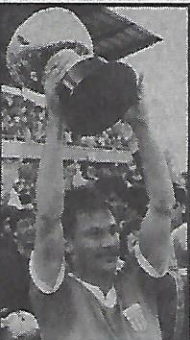
"It didn't look that bad to me but having said that, I'll have to watch the TV later tonight and get a better look at it. It definitely was the turning point of the match and I wouldn't be honest if I didn't say that the refereeing disappointed me from the point of view of consistency. There were so many things that went on out there today and weren't pulled up and things that I thought would have been let go were pulled up. Yes, I was disappointed with the refereeing."

Two other journalists were with me in the Hei-

**Man of the Match:**  
**OSCAR CRINO**  
(SM-Hellas)

delberg dressing room interviewing Garvey after the match. Suddenly, the dressing room door opened and a man, whom I presumed to be a Heidelberg official, had a younger man by the arm and was taking him toward Heidelberg stopper Don Macleod. I immediately realised what was going on.

I was in the grandstand, and believe it or not I had a clear view of the players leaving the pitch once referee Rennie signalled for full time. I was watching Macleod head toward the players' race. A stocky young man ran up to him and struck him across the back of the head. Macleod tried to respond to the aggressor but a couple of young fans got in the way, so Macleod headed into the dressing room.



• Hellas captain John Yzendoorn with the National Conference championship trophy.

What disturbed me was that the man who struck Macleod was on the Hellas bench for the youth team game. He led substitutes toward the pitch whenever a change was made. I thought that he was a Hellas official.

But back to the Heidelberg dressing room. Macleod's aggressor, led by the arm, confronted Macleod, presumably to apologise, as Macleod was getting changed. A scuffle broke out, forcing Garvey to leave the interview and quickly quell tempers.

I went straight to the Hellas dressing room and spoke to three committeemen. They denied that the culprit was a Hellas official but they knew exactly who I was talking about.

"There's no place for anyone like that at our

club. And you can put that in print. We'll take action against him," said Hellas committeemen Jim Diamantaris.

There were a couple of ugly scenes in the grandstand during this grand final and after the match. The final five series certainly has been a hit but it has introduced an element of thuggery off the field which worries me. Just ask Green Gully players Steve McClelland and David Smallman who were attacked by a large group of youths the previous Sunday in a brawl in the grandstand in which women were hurt.

Journalist Manos Milios was threatened after this match as he waited to gain entry to the dressing room area below the grandstand. And when Milios finally got into the dressing room area he was followed by a fan and struck on the back of the head. I was walking behind him and hardly could believe my eyes.

Bad publicity, you say. Of course, you're right. But I've never seen my job as one in which I merely promote soccer. I'm only here to report what happens both on the field and off. And I'm far happier with what I see on the field.

These finals games are not family affairs. Unless you've got a huge family with third and fourth cousins and you all sit in the same spot in the grandstand. Once safety in numbers becomes the sole criterion for watching great soccer in peace, then there's something sick about our game.

Being superstitious, I should have heeded the portent of violence which greeted me as I walked up the stairs leading into the grandstand. A seagull, with its head neatly severed, lay near the stairs.

Seven minutes into the game, Mike Petersen severed Hellas's hold on its pre-match favorite label by thumping a superb first-time volley from 25 metres inside the smallest of gaps at the near post. Hellas goalkeeper Peter Laumets hardly had time to blink.

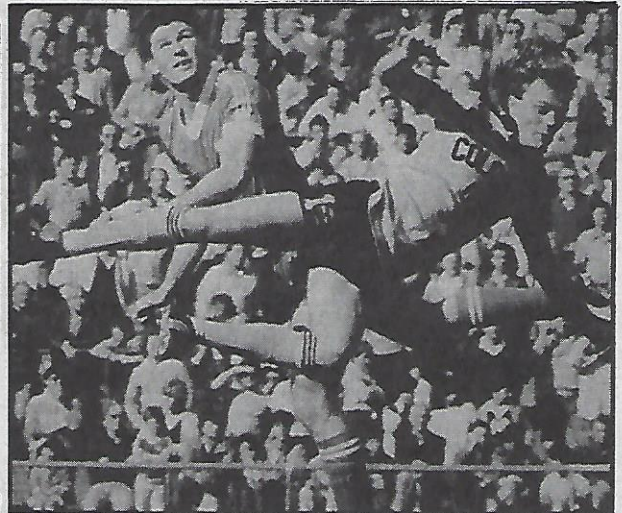
Alan Davidson eased our fears about the wisdom of his participation so soon after collapsing for the second time this season, when he forced home the equaliser in the 16th minute. Doug Brown's free kick forced Jeff Oliver to dive toward the near post and parry. Charlie Egan was charging in and almost tucked away the rebound and despite Oliver's attempts to grab the ball, Davidson forced it over the line.

Egan should have given Hellas the lead in the 35th minute. He engineered a brilliant break by taking the ball into his attacking half of the field, laying it off to Brown and making a superb off-the-ball run to get onto Brown's return. The Heidelberg defence was caught cold but Oliver raced almost to the edge of the area and smothered after Egan's final touch sent the ball too far forward.

Four minutes later, a stunning piece of opportunism from Stewart Stevenson restored Heidelberg's lead. The ball was crossed



Craig Mackenzie



• Heidelberg striker Stewart Stevenson is horizontal in mid-air as he contests a high ball, with Steve Blair of Hellas. Pictures by LES SHORROCK.



• The men of Heidelberg, who came so close, from left: Theo Selemidis, Scott Patterson, Steve Tasios, Charlie Yankos, Steve Marley, Ian McKie, Mike Valentine, Mike Petersen, Don Macleod, Stewart Stevenson, Steve Winn, Joe Angelo, Jeff Oliver.

were at the far post and Winn did well to head the ball into the centre of the Hellas area. Davidson, facing his own goal, tried to head out for a corner but got mixed up with John Yzendoorn and Stevenson quickly struck the ball into the top far corner from eight metres.

A bad back pass from Steve Blair in the 43rd minute almost made it 3-1. Stevenson turned and shot in one movement but Laumets reacted in a flash to get down and save well.

Within a minute, Brown decided against using his renowned shooting power and slipped the ball to Egan who got inside the Heidelberg area on the left. Egan twisted one way then the other and seemed to have lost the chance to strike but he wriggled clear and struck a left-foot shot wide of the far post.

When Yankos walked off in the 47th minute after his tackle on Crino he took most Heidelberg hopes with him.

Theo Selemidis went back to sweeper. Until Crino stamped his undoubted class and skill on the contest in the 60th minute with a scorching drive from 25 metres which sent the ball whistling past Oliver and firmly into the bottom far corner for the equaliser. Selemidis moved back into midfield but it was all Hellas now and it hit the front in the 80th minute when Yzendoorn's free header from point blank range after Brown's corner gave Oliver no chance.

Yzendoorn, elated, clipped Macleod on the back of the head immediately after scoring. Macleod chased Yzendoorn for about 10 metres until restrained by team mates.

It was the sole blemish on an otherwise commanding display from Yzendoorn, who continues to be overlooked for national duty while lesser players get the nod. Maybe Yzendoorn still is paying the price for the so-called taping scandal during the

ASF. Yzendoorn was great in this grand final. Six minutes from time, Crino had the last say. Egan skipped clear of a

Heidelberg defender on the right of the area and cut the ball back to the near post. Crino's first timer made it 4-2.

Selemidis almost had the last word but Laumets reacted superbly to save from a Selemidis header in the final minutes.



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• Warren Spink (left), then of Doveton, receives the 1982 Weinstein Medal as Victorian Junior Player of the Year, from Franz Beckenbauer of the Cosmos.

## Warren Spink on indecency charge

Australian forward Warren Spink, playing in the Merlion Cup tournament in Singapore is to be charged in court with indecent exposure, a police spokesman said.

The spokesman alleged that Spink exposed himself to a salesgirl in a shoe shop and that he urinated in an ash-tray stand in the shop.

An official of the Australian team refused to comment on the matter.

Australia is the defending champion in the eight-nation tournament which began last Sunday week.

Spink played for Doveton (Vic) before joining the Australian Sports Institute.

Australian team officials placed an advertisement in the "Sunday Times" expressing a public apology for the incident.

The apology appeared in the sports page of the newspaper.

The full text of the two-column advertisement read as follows:

"Apology: Australian team officials today visited the Venice of Italy Shoe Centre in the Peninsula Shopping Centre and expressed regrets for the unfortunate incident which occurred at the shop last Tuesday involving one of the Australian team players.

"A spokesman for the Australian team, David Dillon, offered apologies to the shop owner and his sales staff for any embarrassment and inconvenience caused by the incident. The Venice of Italy Shoe Centre management and staff accepted the apology."

# Dutch beat 'Roos 5-2 but Mihailidis in form

From PETER DESIRA in Singapore

Socceroo coach Frank Arok should take a close look at John Mihailidis, the former Heidelberg-Alexander player now with the Australian Sports Institute.

So says Jim Shoulder, coach of the Australian team that has reached the semi-finals of the Merlion Cup here.

Mihailidis, a dead ball expert, has been the cornerstone of the Australian midfield and a lot depends on his display in the semi-final against Iraq on Friday.

Iraq is represented by its full national team, preparing for World Cup matches in March, and includes seven members of the side that did so well in the Los Angeles Olympics, where it drew 1-1 with Canada, lost 0-1 to Cameroon, and led Yugoslavia 2-0 before going down 2-4.

Star of the side is captain and striker Hussain Said but Shoulder says everything stems from midfielder Hussain Shihab, who figures in most forward moves and also scores himself.

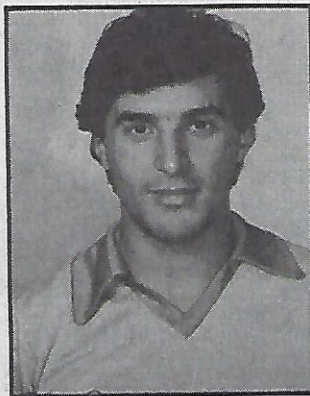
Australia's players have watched all three of Iraq's matches so far. Results have been 2-0 v. Argentina, 3-0 v. South Korea and 2-1 v. Chile. Mihailidis has been told to pay special attention to Shihab in the semi-final.

Australia reached the semis by beating Indonesia 2-1 and Singapore 1-0.

Against Singapore, Australia took the lead in the 5th minute. Ray Vietstra headed forward a corner from Mihailidis, it rebounded off a defender, and sweeper Andrew Bernal was there to smash it in from close range.

Two players — Malek Awab and Suriarmuthy — sent off over late tackles on Hooker and Mihailidis.

Details:



John Mihailidis

AUSTRALIA 1 (Bernal) SINGAPORE 0.  
Australia: Franken 8 — Hooker 8, Bernal 9, Vietstra 7, Tredinnick 7 — Panagis 7, Maier 8, Mihailidis 9, Bundalo 8 (Sharpe 6th) — Farina 8, Spink 7.

Having secured a semi-final berth, Shoulder decided to use all his under 19 players, apart from Hooker, in the game against Holland.

The gamble almost paid off, as Australia took a 1-0 lead, and then hung onto a 2-2 scoreline before finally crumbling 2-5 in the last 10 minutes.

John Panagis drove a cross from Andrew Koczka into the net in the 10th minute, but Holland equalised seven minutes later when Sisti Regiero chipped over goalkeeper Jones.

Peter Scheepers made it 2-1 for Holland after a rebound off a defender in the 33rd minute, but Bernal levelled from a penalty after Anno DeKleine of Holland had floored Sian Ingham.

A Dutch onslaught followed, and Rob Meulendyck hit the post. In addition, Koczka and Theo Stamateopoulos had to clear shots off the goal line.

Shoulder finally sent on Maier and Frank Farina but they had been on the park for barely a minute, when a goalkeeping mistake by Jones enabled Freddie Prins to score with a header.

DeKleine made it 4-2 with a chip over the wall, and Prins got his second to make it 5-2 in the 83rd minute.

Despite the defeat, Australia still was in high spirits and looking forward to the clash with Iraq.

The other semi-final will be between Holland and South Korea.

Melbourne referee Stewart Mellings was in control of the Korea v. Argentina match, which ended in a 2-2 draw, and his tight control ensured there would be no repeat of the brawls that occurred during the Argentina v. Chile match.

Mellings has figured in five games over eight days — twice in the middle — which is a certain sign that he has been recognised as the top referee in the Cup.

Details:  
AUSTRALIA 2 (Panagis, Bernal pen.) HOLLAND 5 (Prins 2, Regiero, Scheepers, DeKleine).

Australia: Jones 5 — Gregson 9, Kotzamalichis 7, Bernal 9, Koczka 7 — Bundalo 7 (Maier 6th), Sharpe 7, Stamateopoulos 8, Panagis 7 — Spink 6 (Farina 6th), Ingham 8.

The team positions after the eighth day's play in the third Merlion Cup tournament.

GROUP 'A'				
	W	D	L	F A Pts
HOLLAND	3	0	0	10 3 6
AUSTRALIA	2	0	1	5 6 4
SINGAPORE	0	0	2	1 3 0
INDONESIA	0	0	2	1 5 0

GROUP 'B'				
	W	D	L	F A Pts
IRAQ	3	0	0	7 1 6
SOUTH KOREA	1	1	1	5 6 3
ARGENTINA	1	1	1	3 4 3
CHILE	0	0	3	2 6 0



## It's Hellas, Melita in youth final

SM-Hellas won the Victorian Youth League grand final, 1-0 against Footscray J.U.S.T., at Olympic Park last Sunday.

Theo Mitsou scored the winning goal, and Hellas now meets Melita Eagles in the national youth final, at St George Stadium, at 1 pm on Sunday. Melita Eagles reached the final by beating St George 2-1.

The Hellas team, pictured from left, back row:

Steve Kalogeros (team manager), Andrew Arvanatakis (team manager), Con Moshopoulos, Manny Anezakis, Con Brunopolous, Arthur Akritidis, Mark Turudia, Manny Manopolous, Peter Vardaxis, Greg Kassidas, George Kolivas, George Karipidis,

Adrian "Robson". Front Row: Nick Karantonis, Jimmy Pasakos, George Kalogeros, Peter "Pepe" Abraam, Theo Mitsou (observed), Jim Diamantaris (youth committee president), Theo Kasmeris, Harry Mavridis, Con Kikos, Jim Kassidas (committee), Tony Brown (coach).

Line-ups for the Victorian final:  
HELLAS: Turudia —

Mavridis, Moshopoulos, Anezakis, Vardaxis — Abraam, Kasmeris, Pasakos, Kalogeros — Mitsou, Kikos. Subs: Akritidis, Mermingas, Rizopoulos, Karantonis.

J.U.S.T.: Vljajnic — Lopatic, L. Barjaktarevic, R. Barjaktarevic, Oblak — Paz, Perez — Reigosa, Pasoski — Fernandez, Marchet, Caban. Subs: Vega, Stankovski.

## NSL men fail to stop Eagles

MELITA EAGLES 2 (Johnstone, Tooma) ST GEORGE-BUD-APEST 1 (Petkovski), Australian Conference Youth League grand final at St George Stadium. Crowd: Approx. 6,500.

MELITA EAGLES: London, — Smith, Barrios, Alexakis, Williams, — Johnstone, Tooma (Radenkovic 65th), Callanan, Vial, Whiteside, Andricopoulos.

ST GEORGE: Young, — Spirovski, Denaskos, Zentides, Moffit, — Svinos, High, Polias, — Ricoy, Petkovski, Betton.

Melita Eagles won the youth grand final in the Australian Conference, adding fuel to the argument that relegated Melita should stay in the NSL.

Not even the Saints, with as many as seven players who have played in the National League in '84, could blunt the enthusiasm of this Melita squad.

Johnstone and Tooma put Melita ahead. Then, with half time approaching, Peter Petkovski made it 1-2, giving Saints a fair chance to succeed in the second period.

However, some poor finishing by Saints, coupled with some good defence by Melita resulted in the title going to Melita.



Hellas youth team captain Manny Anezakis.

## Sermanni best at Canberra

By PETER WINDSOR

Canberra Arrows 1984 Player of the year is "Mr. Reliable", Tommy Sermanni, the only Arrows' player never to miss a league or cup match this season.

The Player of the year — and other awards — were announced at the club's annual presentation night last Friday.

Sermanni, recruited by coach Doug Collins from the UK, originally for Marconi, was purchased by the Arrows for \$10,000.

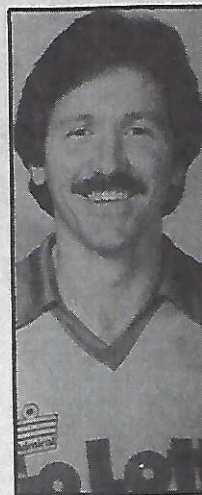
He played in all of the Arrows' 28 League and three cup matches.

It is understood that he just edged out Canberra's young goalkeeper, Tony Franken, for the Player of the year Award.

Franken, however, on the votes of Canberra's soccer journalists, gained the prestigious Ansett Most Entertaining Player prize — a trip for two to the Gold Coast.

In that battle, Franken edged out classy midfielder Steve Bryant by only two votes.

Robust, do-or-die, young, front-runner Marko



Tommy Sermanni

Perinovic took the top goalscorer award with the Arrows youth team prizes going to Jason Dunne (best player), Manis Lamond (highest scorer) and Peter Maziz (most improved player).

The most improved NSL player award was won by 20-year-old John Mihailidis.

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# Kids shine, Greeks best, ban the bums



Con Opasinis of Makedonia



John Kanesoulis (right) of Hellas, leaves Kevin Swinscoe of Juventus behind.

As we enter the final week of the 1984 season, let's take our hats off to some of the young players who have made their mark this year.

**DAVID LOWE** (Marconi): Has had a great first season with his new club, after leaving Newcastle KB United. In my opinion, he's one of the most dangerous forwards in the league — intelligent, skilful and nippy. And what about his dedication? He lives in Newcastle and travels something like 1300km a week to play for Marconi.

**PETER WILSON** (Sydney Olympic): The forgotten goalkeeper at Sydney Olympic, still is as good as anyone. He wants to leave the club because he hasn't been getting a game because Gary Meier has been playing so well. That is the unfortunate aspect of being a goalkeeper — just ask Peter Blasby of Melbourne Croatia. Wilson is one of the best reflex 'keepers in the NSL.

**CON OPASINIS** (Makedonia): Made his debut for Australia in the World Series this year, and has matured greatly as a defender, playing with great consistency for his club, Makedonia.

**NICK TEO-DORAKOPOULOS** (Sydney Olympic): In his first NSL season, he's scored nine goals in 14 league games and definitely has been one of the forwards "finds". Previously, he was top scorer in the NSW State League, with Canterbury.

**JOHN KANESOULIS** (SM-

Hellas): Came out of the blue, to fill in for injured players, and really distinguished himself with some determined, skilful play in the Hellas midfield. A tremendously hard worker, his talent was acknowledged by coach Jim Shoulder, who selected him to the Merlion Cup squad. Unfortunately, his club refused to release him.

**STEVE TASIOS** (Heidelberg-Alexander): A real find, and a player of brilliant skill, he made a big impact in a handful of games after being promoted by coach Brian Garvey. A member of the Victorian team that won the national youth championship, Tasios is one to watch next season.

## Greeks rule the roost

South Melbourne Hellas, Sydney Olympic and Heidelberg-Alexander, the three giants of Australian soccer, made the grand finals in their respective conferences, which just goes to show that the Greeks rule the roost here.

All three clubs are backed by Greek supporters and Greek committeemen, and the teams also feature Greek players.

Heidelberg has Charlie Yan-

## KAT'S CORNER

with PETER KATHOLOS



Kris Kalifaidis and Angie Postecoglou, and Olympic of course, is made up mainly of players with a Greek background.

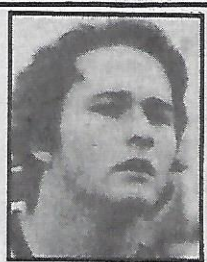
Having Greek boys in the side makes it much more interesting for the Greek fans. APFA and Marconi, on the other hand, have no big personality Italian players, so the Italians can't relate properly to these teams.

Really, all clubs should try hard to promote players on a personality basis — preferably players of the same nationality as the supporters — in order to draw bigger crowds.

Sydney Croatia and Melbourne Croatia have the right idea, as they feature many players of Croatian background.

## Stop the bombardment

A big problem during the finals, particularly in Sydney, has been the throwing of missiles onto the field.



David Lowe (Marconi)

At a training session following one of the finals at St George Stadium, the number of bottles and cans on the pitch was incredible!

This type of thing has to be stamped out before there are serious injuries.

Temper and frustrations run high among the spectators



Steve Tasios (Heidelberg)

during the finals, no matter what their nationalities, and anything can happen. Just look at the experience of other countries, particularly England.

One solution is to stop selling drinks in bottles and cans. Instead, sell them in plastic cups the way they do in Europe.

# Stevenson breaks drought — and how!

By LAURIE SCHWAB

**HEIDELBERG-ALEXANDER 3** (Stevenson 9th, 38th & 44th) **MELBOURNE CROATIA 1** (Brogan penalty 74th). National Conference preliminary final at Olympic Park, Wednesday. Crowd about 2500. Referee: Jim Fearn. Cautions: Parton (Cr.)

**HEIDELBERG:** Oliver 8 — Angala 7, Yankos 8, Macleod 8 — McKie 8, Peterson 7, Solemidis 8, Valentine 7, Marley 8 — Winn 9, Stevenson 9. **Coach:** Brian Garvey.

**CROATIA:** Banovic 7 — Lewis 7, Parton 8, Curcio 6, Deankovic 6 (Hannah 53rd) — Biskic 6, Antolovic 5, Campbell 5, Golevic 6 — Brogan 6, Cumming 6. **Coach:** Tony Vrzi-

na. **Stewart Stevenson** keeps his best for when it counts. He joined Heidelberg-Alexander for the 16th match of the season, from Scottish club Pollok, scored in his second game, against Brisbane City, and then had a goal drought that lasted 11 league and two finals matches. Last Wednesday night, against Croatia in the preliminary final, he cut loose with a hat-trick!

He'd set the scene, though, with a great performance against Brisbane Lions the previous Sunday. He showed defence and confidence that day, without getting on the score sheet, but against Croatia he could have scored five instead of three. One was disallowed, and a long-range pldriver was saved desperately by goalkeeper Yakka Banovic.

Stevenson formed a deadly, hard-running partnership with Steve Winn who played a part in all three goals. Stevenson popped up in the clear so many times in the first half, and made Croatia pay dearly for its loose marking. Winn also enjoyed a fair share of freedom, whereas at the other end, Heidelberg was water-tight, using two stoppers (Angele, Macleod), a sweeper (Yankos) and two full backs (McKie, Marley) who could be pushed forward as wide midfielders.

Croatia was a sorry failure in midfield, and never came to grips with the overlapping runs of McKie and Marley. Croatia did however fight back valiantly in the second half, when stopper Shaun Parton was pushed up on to the forward line where he challenged strongly for the high balls. Croatia elected to play in a 4-2-2 formation, and also played some constructive first-time lay-offs which could have resulted in goals.

During this fight-back, only Peter Lewis, Tony Curcio and Drago Deankovic (before being replaced by George Hannah) remained in defence, and Tommy Cumming dropped back to cover the gaps in midfield. Scoring chances came thick and fast, but only a penalty was converted. The long and the short of it is that most of the Croatia players failed to produce their best form.

In my view, Drago Deankovic

vic should have stayed on the field. Just before being replaced, he was showing a lot of determination in getting forward, so it may have been better to push him into midfield in place of either Jim Campbell or Jozo Antolovic.

Despite its loss, however, Croatia has had an excellent initial season in the NSL, and can build confidently towards greater success next season, particularly if it succeeds in luring former Yugoslav international midfielder Nikica Cukrov of Hajduk Split. Unfortunately, however, Jozo Antolovic appears to be heading back to Yugoslavia.

Heidelberg-Alexander has achieved what appeared to be impossible at the start of the season, when it lost Gary Cole to Makedonia, Jim Tansey to J.U.S.T., Jim Campbell to Croatia and also Derek Lea who returned to Scotland. A further setback was that Phil O'Connor decided to return to Sydney after playing only one game for Heidelberg.

Coach Brian Garvey, however, had moulded a dedicated, effective team whose oldest player, Theo Selemidis, is only 25! Providing the many players whose contracts expire this year decide to stay on, Heidelberg, with perhaps one or two reinforcements, will again be a major force in 1985.

Heidelberg took the lead against Croatia as early as the 9th minute, when Stevenson, on a nice pass from Winn, belted a shot over goalkeeper Yakka Banovic.

Selemidis threatened shortly afterwards, accepted a pass from Stevenson and ran a long way before having his shot deflected past for a corner.

Winn broke through the middle for Heidelberg in the 34th minute, played the ball wide to McKie and continued running for McKie's return ball. He met the cross first-time, on the turn, but shot too high.

Stevenson made amends a few minutes later. After a corner, Winn headed the ball goalwards, Stevenson raced to it and nodded it into the net. To some it appeared Stevenson was offside. They obviously did not see Croatia's Tony Curcio standing on the goal line, next to Yakka Banovic.

Banovic, incidentally, made a remarkable save in a move which certainly was offside. Selemidis headed forward a free kick from Mike Petersen, and Winn struck it at point-blank range. Banovic pounced, blocked it, and kicked it clear while lying on the ground!

Banovic was in the thick of things again a few seconds before half time, but this time he was beaten. Winn again slipped the ball wide to unmarked Mike Valentine, in the box on the left. Valentine's shot

## Man of the Match: STEWART STEVENSON (Heidelberg)

was blocked by Banovic, and Stevenson raced in to score from the rebound.

Stevenson had been celebrating his goals with much gusto, to the extent of running around to show the crowd his shirt number, for fear they may not recognise him! Two minutes after half time, he would have added to his tally had it not been for Banovic's reflex save.

But it was Croatia's turn to apply the pressure now.

Cumming was following in on a Brogan header, but goalkeeper Jeff Oliver reacted quickly and then Biskic hit the outside of the net from a cross by Deankovic.

After Stevenson's 57th minute goal had been disallowed over offside (Winn had delivered the cross), Peter Lewis moved upfield from defence, shook off two challenges, and blasted a strong shot across goal. Parton then got his head to a long throw from Hannah, only to see Oliver deflect it off the crossbar for a corner.

Stevenson's long throw by Winn, followed by a pass inside, set up Macleod for a shot, but it was hooked away by Hannah in the nick of time.

Selemidis would have made it 4-0 with a fine shot which was saved one-handed by Banovic, at full stretch.

Having survived that one, Croatia stormed back into attack, with a long throw by Winn, followed by a pass inside, set up Macleod for a shot, but it was hooked away by Hannah in the nick of time.

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## APIA reaches end of the line

Man of the Match: PETER RASKOPOULOS (Syd. Olympic)

By ALEX VESIC

**SYDNEY OLYMPIC 3** (Raskopoulos 42nd, Kalantzis 70th, Patikas 90th) **APIA 0** at St George Stadium. Crowd: 4930. NSL preliminary final, Wednesday. Referee Gary Power 9.

**OLYMPIC:** Meier 8, — Rogers 7, Lane 8 (Lancaster 80th), Coady 8, Jennings 8, — Phillips 7, Raskopoulos 9, Katholos 7, Patikas 7, — Theodorakopoulos 7, Kalantzis 7.

**APIA LEICHHARDT:** Parks 7, — Bozanic 7, Bertogina 6, Pullen 6, Brown 6 — Gray 7, Butler 7 (De Ceglie 80th), Tredinnick 7 — Bradley 6, Caban 5, Marsella 5 (Colquhoun 67th).

Olympic cruised into the Australian grand final despite a lack lustre performance.

Its first-half effort would have amounted to nothing had it not been for some sloppy defence by APIA. Nick Theodorakopoulos was given ample room to turn inside the half, then run to the by-line before crossing for Raskopoulos to score in the 42nd minute.

APIA's players thought that the ball had crossed the line before Theodorakopoulos managed to cross, and so they stood still long enough to allow Raskopoulos to add the finishing touch. With little time remaining in the first half it was just the tonic Olympic needed to get into second gear.

However, the game never got past first gear, with frequent infringements only adding to the loss of momentum. Olympic did create openings, with Peter Raskopoulos' constructive play the most damaging factor.

Parks made a fine save from Raskopoulos, then Theodorakopoulos missed in the 68th. Two minutes later a move started by Katholos provided Chris Kalantzis with a chance he took with ease.

With seconds remaining, Kalantzis broke through to feed Patikas who needed only to tap it home for number 3. The damage was caused by a brilliant through ball by Michael Coady, while the speed of Kalantzis did the rest.

And while Fil Bottalico the coach of APIA heaped praise on the effort of his side in getting to the final, Olympic's coach Manfred Schaefer was



Former national coach Les Scheinflug (left) watches Olympic star Peter Raskopoulos in training. Raskopoulos is in the Soccerroo squad which embarks on a tour of China and Europe early next month.

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# Parton: Gardiner's the best!

**Shaun Parton's "living in sin and loving it", gets everything he deserves from referees, gives a firm "no comment" when asked questions about his coach Tony Vrzina and reckons that John Gardiner is "easily the best coach" he's played under.**

Nicknamed "Dolly" by other players, he doesn't mess about if someone gets in between him and the ball. He also doesn't mess about when answering a journalist's questions.

You didn't get on with Terry Hennessy very well did you Shaun?

"No."

Why?

"Just because you're a good player doesn't mean you'll be a good coach."

Hennessy captained Wales and was a star in the English First Division. He came here late last

year to coach Melbourne Croatia but quit in the first half of this season.

"I had plenty of run-ins with Hennessy. He thought that I was condescending in my attitude toward him. I just didn't like the way he abused players. It's okay if we're making our living out of the game, but we're semi-pros and I don't think that he should have spoken to players the way he did."

I asked for transfers heaps of times. Not because of the club, everyone at Croatia, supporters included, have been great to me, but simply because of him. I didn't

like him. I can't say that I was sorry to see him go."

What about Tommy Cummings, who took over as caretaker player-coach when Hennessy left?

"Tommy did a good job as a stand-in. He tried to work on things he'd learned from John Gardiner but he doesn't do it quite as well. The big thing about Tommy is that he leads by example. He goes out there and gives it everything he's got. All the players respect him for that and they all play for him. That's why we won games under Tommy."

Like last year's State League and Dockety Cups, for example, when Cummings took over after Gardiner had been sacked by Croatia.

"People can say what they like but that was John Gardiner's team that won those cups."

What about your present coach, Tony Vrzina?

"No comment."

Why?

"No comment."

Okay, what's so special about Gardiner?

"He's a bloody good coach. I've been under some bad coaches in my time so when someone like John Gardiner coaches you, you realise just how bad some of those other guys are."

"I don't really know Gardiner as a person. I never got close to him. All I can tell you is that he's a good coach."

He's got all the answers to all the questions. And he gets success wherever he goes."

Parton was born in Birmingham in England and came to Australia when he was eight. He played with local club Springvale City as a nine year old. When he was 14 he joined Prahran Slavia and played in its State League Colts side for two seasons. He then spent a season in the Slavia reserves but left because I wasn't getting a first team game and I thought that I was good enough to play in the firsts."

While at Slavia, Parton was picked in the Victorian youth team which won the national title in 1979. He played alongside Steve Blair (now with South Melbourne Hellas), George Christopoulos (Canberra), Charlie Yankos (Haidberg), Vukob Relic (JUST) and Sean Keogh (Brunswick Juventus).

Parton joined Frankston City,

then in State League, for the 1980 season. Nigel Bevis was coaching City then and Parton, as an overlapping right back, made a big impression in his first State League season. With six or seven other Frankston City players, Parton was freed at the end of 1980 after the club was unable to meet a deadline to pay the players' contract money.

"Actually I signed with Footscray JUST earlier than I should have and when Preston Make-donia rang me up it was too late. Which is a pity, looking back on it, because I would have been far better off with Preston."

It was a big mistake going to Footscray. Cedo Kirovic (the coach) played me in all the pre-season games but when the first league game arrived, he never selected me. To be honest, I don't think that he was keen on playing me at all. But that's okay, I'm not exactly a big wrap for the bloke either."

Parton played half a season with JUST's reserves, then playing in the Metro Leagues, but injury sidelined him for the remainder of 1981. He trained with Croatia early in 1982 and joined for only \$300 because JUST owed him part of his signing-on fee.

Billy McArthur was coaching Croatia when Parton joined.

"McArthur was quite a good coach. At least he tried to coach, rather than just being a trainer. He tried to improve the team."

When he got the flick, Daz Zammit, and then Michael Kiss had a go at coaching us. Just let's say that we had some weird and wonderful training sessions."



Melbourne Croatia stopper Shaun Parton is airborne as he heads clear. South Melbourne Hellas striker Charlie Egan is in the background. Picture: LES SHORROCK.

Parton now is recognised as a fine National League stopper after his first season in top company. "I thought that I handled the jump from State League to National League reasonably well. The only big difference is that in the National League you don't have any easy games. It tends to be a bit of a battle week in, week out, in the NSL."

Parton has tangled with quite a few referees this year but he

reckons that he gets everything he deserves.

"I've got no complaints about the refs. I get into a bit of bother because I love winning so much. I only play to win and you almost could say that I'll do anything to win. Almost, but not quite."

"Some of the other players know what I'm like and then try and suck me in but that doesn't worry me, as long as we win."

"I want to make it clear that Croatia has been great to me. Really great. I've never had any trouble with the supporters and the club always pays me on time. I want to stay with Croatia next year but a lot will depend on one person there. I'm not prepared to elaborate."

Parton teaches physical education and health at St John's College in Braybrook. He's single and isn't thinking about marriage in the immediate future.

"I'm quite happy living in sin."

He's also very happy with Croatia's efforts in its first NSL season.

"I thought the side performed exceptionally well this season. We've established ourselves as one of the top sides in our league and if I'm still with Croatia next season, I hope we can go a few steps further."

## MCCANN STEPS DOWN

By TED SIMMONS

Peter McCann, the "quiet achiever" in Australian soccer, has decided to temporarily hang up his boots to allow new blood into the Australian Soccer Federation executive.



Peter McCann

McCann, who is ASF honorary vice-president and chairman of the World Cup committee, has decided not to stand for re-election at the ASF annual general meeting on October 28.

"I believe it's a good thing for a change to be made. I will not be leaving the code or the friends I have made and will certainly help in the future if I'm needed," he said.

"Soccer is more important than one person and the national team and coach are more important than administrators."

"There has not been any disagreements or problems. I just feel I have been in the game for long enough and it's time to give someone else a chance."

McCann has spent more than 20 years in an administrative role in NSW and Australian Soccer.

He began his official career with Wahroonga Sports club in Sydney and progressed to become the first president of the NSW Amateur Federation.

His business ability and popularity led to him becoming the longest serving president of the NSW Soccer Federation before he decided to retire.

"I had about 12 months' break and then Sir Arthur George, the ASF president, ap-

proached me to consider the post of honorary ASF vice-president," said McCann.

"I'm not turning my back on soccer and there are enough experienced people around to fill the position I have occupied."

McCann's last official duty will lead to his absence from the AGM. He had accepted an invitation to represent the ASF at Albury-Wagga before the AGM date was known and has decided to keep faith with the arrangement.

ASF executive director, Brian Emery, said McCann had notified the ASF that he would not be re-standing for his two positions because of business reasons.

"He has been the quiet achiever in the game in his six years with the ASF and a great representative," he said.

"Peter was one of the few people who always attended the departure and arrival at the airport of Australian representative teams which had a decided effect on the morale of the players."

The ASF executive will consider filling the vacancy at the later date but still has two honorary vice-presidents remaining from the four it is allowed.

Sir Arthur will automatically become chairman of the World Cup committee unless there is a nomination for the position.

## Herbert 'kicked in the head'

**LAUTOKA: Police had to separate warring players and Fiji's captain, Goalkeeper Vale Raniga, was sent from the field as an international soccer match against New Zealand last week erupted into a fierce brawl seven minutes from full time.**

New Zealand emerged a 2-1 winner, profiting from Raniga's exile when Steve Woodcock struck the winning goal in the 85th minute at Churchill Park in Fiji.

But the victory, which opened New Zealand's two-

match visit to Fiji and preceded its major tour of the UK, was soured by the brawl. It occurred after a goalmouth scramble and involved most players.

Both benches emptied as reserve and team officials attempted to end the scuffle and police and security men finally intervened to prevent further violence.

The incident was provoked by a stern challenge from Raniga on New Zealand defender Ricki Herbert who was in the goalmouth to head on a New Zealand free kick as the Kiwis scrambled for a winning goal after scores were locked for some 50 minutes at 1-1.

The New Zealand player made contact with the ball and was flung to the ground. His team mate, Grant Turner, attempted to put away a rebound and in turn collided with Fiji defenders.

As Herbert lay on the ground, however, he appeared to be kicked in the head by Raniga. Turner arrived to protect his team mate, and according to New Zealand coach Allan Jones, was "laid out cold".

Jones was openly furious. He claimed his players were deliberately kicked and punched by a Fijian side bent on violence.

"This is not what we came to Fiji for," Jones said. "Our players were continually physically man-handled and punched."

"What I could see of the incident the ball was played in from a set piece. There was a terrific header from Herbert and a terrific save from our keeper."

"All of a sudden Herbert was kicked in the head and when Grant Turner tried to help him, he was laid out cold."

"It was a disgraceful piece of football."

The match was a scrappy one and Jones slammed the tactics of the Fijians for making it so.

Jones praised the control of Australian referee Peter Rampling saying he had "handled things absolutely correctly."

With a 2-0 lead from the first leg, Juventus travelled north to Georgetown full of confidence. George Town virtually threw away its chances at the loss when Peter Davidson chose to kick against the strong wind when his side really needed every possible advantage if it was to win by the three clear goals necessary to grab the state title.

George Town had three great chances in the five minutes before the interval but poor shooting and a save on the line by a defender prevented a score.

Juventus struck the killer blow just after the interval.



Juventus-Pioneer. Back row: Schiro (president), Morton (coach), Nicholls, Cochrane, Charlton, Craven, Di Martino, Perri, Corradetti (manager), Masseur. Front: Fabrizio, De Felice, Pears, Genovesi, Pace, Darko, Broadhouse, Longo. Photo: RALPH DYMOND

## Joe blasts pitches

**Sydney City Hakoah and Soccerstar Joe Watson has slammed the conditions of pitches in Sydney this season and is adamant that the National League management committee must stop in next season and demand that clubs upgrade their playing surfaces.**

"The grounds in Sydney have been a disaster. Players are being crucified on surfaces as bad as those, the spectacle suffers, and the fans stay away. What do you expect when you play on grounds in such atrocious conditions?" said Watson.

"It's up to the National League to see that grounds are improved drastically. The league's always been worried about attracting more fans to games but there's no way that's on until players can play on half decent pitches."

"The ground at Barton Park (St. George Stadium) is terrible and here we are playing the finals on it. Not that there are any more suitable pitches around. It really makes me angry, and this has been allowed to happen. I don't know if it's the fault of the clubs, the local councils or both but something has to be done and quickly."

"Soccer Action" echoes Watson's sentiments.

Let's at least give players a chance to entertain by giving them a playing surface which stops the ball bobbling all over the place.

## Con's come a long, long way

He's come a long way since.

Like playing for Australia B in the international series against Nottingham Forest, Iraklis and Glasgow Rangers this year.

Like being voted Victorian under 21 Player of the Year in 1983.

Like being one of the tightest markers in NSL soccer. In case you don't recognise him, it's Con Opatinis (pictured, at right) the Preston-Makedonia full back.

We found this picture in our files. It shows him when he was in a Makedonia junior team of some years ago.

Just shows how far you



## Coaches have nothing to fear

**Victorian Director of Coaching Tim White has a message for coaches who live in fear of being asked to attend a coaching course — relax, no one is trying to show you up, only to improve your knowledge of the game and your ability to communicate that knowledge.**

"I really believe that there is a huge fear element operating among some coaches, especially among some established coaches, that guys like myself and John Gardiner and others who run the coaching courses are there only to show these coaches up, which certainly isn't the case," said White.

"Part of my job is to break down that fear element and get these guys to the courses. We're only trying to make them better coaches. Look, you never stop learning about the game and all of us should continually improve our knowledge and pass that knowledge onto our players."

Critics of coaching courses argue that all the courses do is teach participants a jargon belonging to a coaching elite in Australia and offer very little practical knowledge. White takes up the cudgel in defence of the courses:

"The fact is that 95-98 per cent of the courses are practical. You're on the park with a ball working through things, rather than sitting on your bum with a

were good players and played under good coaches, they know enough to coach. That's rubbish. A good mathematician isn't necessarily a good maths teacher. The art of getting your knowledge across to others has to be learned."

Some coaches use the language barrier as an excuse for not attending the courses, which are conducted by English-speaking coaches. But White recently held a course for Spanish-speaking coaches and found that when he demonstrated things on the park and walked the participants through certain situations, they were able to understand what he wanted to get across.

Another criticism of coaching courses is that too many players and not enough coaches are attending. It can be a problem for a coach who hasn't gone through the courses to deal with a player who has.

"This is a development country and we need lots of people with practical knowledge of the game. And who can best demonstrate the practicalities of playing soccer than the players themselves?"

"But it's up to coaches to want to improve themselves. I want to get guys like Frank McAleer, Peter Ollerton, Jimmy Dunne, Jimmy Tansey, Tony Vrzina and Jimmy Condliffe down to the courses and let them see for themselves what we're about."

## Fawkner hosts Coppa Italia

**The 1984 Coppa Italia (Italian Cup) is being contested by 16 clubs, in four groups, at Smith Reserve, Fawkner.**

The groups: GROUP A: Fawkner, Azurri, Dallas City, Carrum United, Nunawading United. GROUP B: Werribee, Bulleen Veneto, Batman Lazio, Ascot S. Marco. GROUP C: East Brunswick, Westall, Eagles United. GROUP D: Thomastown, Vermont, Juventus, Regent.

FIXTURES: Tuesday Oct 30: 7.30pm Bulleen - Batman Lazio, 9.00pm Dallas City - Nunawading United

Tuesday Nov. 6: 7.30pm Thomastown - Regent, 9.00pm East Brunswick - Eagles United

Saturday Nov. 10: 1.00pm Batman Lazio - Ascot S. Mark, 2.30pm Fawkner - Carrum United, 4.00pm Juventus - Regent, 5.30pm Tristina - Eagle United

Tuesday Nov. 13: 7.30 East Brunswick - Westall, 9.00pm Carrum United - Nunawading United

Tuesday Nov. 17: 1.00pm Westall - Eagles United, 2.30pm Thomastown - Juventus, 4.00pm Werribee - Bulleen, 5.30pm Fawkner - Nunawading United

Tuesday Nov. 20: 7.30pm Bulleen - Ascot S. Mark, 9.00pm Vermont - Regent

Sat Nov. 24: 1.00pm Dallas City - Carrum United, 2.30pm Tristina - East Brunswick, 4.00pm Thomastown - Vermont, 5.30pm Werribee - Batman Lazio

Sunday Dec. 9: 2.00pm First semi-final (Winner Group A v Winner Group D) 4.00pm Second semi-final (Winner Group B v Winner Group C) 6.00pm Final



# PERSONALITY PROFILES

## Robert McGinn (Melita Eagles)

**Full name:** Robert McGinn.  
**Birthplace and birthdate:** Glasgow, Scotland, 15 May 1951.

**What year migrated:** 1971.  
**Height and weight:** 1.7 metres, 69 kg.

**Married:** Yes, to Gwen. We have one child, a daughter, Allison, 22 months.

**Job or trade:** Sales representative with Royal Doulton.

**Home:** Marsfield, Parramatta.

**Previous clubs:** Wertheim (Melbourne), APIA, Kilsyth Rangers.

**Nickname:** None.  
**Favourite current player overseas:** Michel Platini.

**Favourite current player locally:** Gordon McGinn of Bondi Marinas.

**Favourite all time great:** Jim Baxter.

**A rising star:** Pavl Andrioupolos.

**Your boyhood hero:** Robert The Bruce.

**Favourite other sports:** Golf, Tennis, Snow Skiing.

**Other sports person you most admire:** Bjorn Borg.

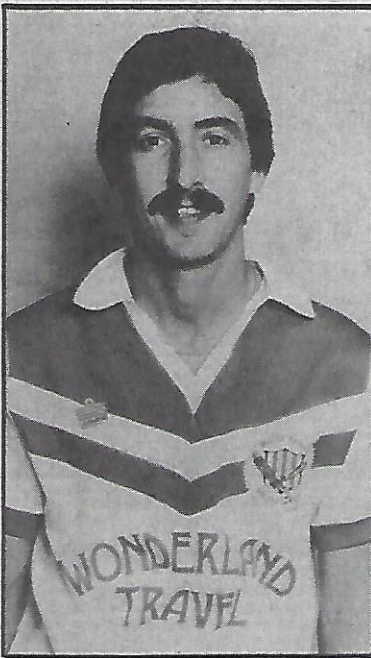
**Most memorable match:** Playing for Victoria against Santos of Brazil in 1973. I got the job of marking Pele. I must have done a good job of it because he didn't score that day.

**Biggest disappointment:** Kenny Wilson's golf clubs.

**International honours:** 6 appearances for the Scottish Youth side.

**Team you supported when young:** Glasgow Rangers.

**Favourite other team:** Liverpool.



Robert McGinn — once marked Pele

**Club honours:** Last year State League Championship with Melita, Ampol Cup win with APIA 1974, championship APIA 1975, Rothmans Cup APIA 1975, Grand Final win APIA 1976.

**Hobbies:** Beating Kenny Wilson at golf which is not the hardest thing in the world.

**Favourite show business**

**people and shows:** Clive Robertson, Hill Street Blues.

**Favourite music and performers:** Calum Kennedy, Moira Anderson, Heavy Metal.

**Biggest influence on career:** Too many to mention.

**Superstitions:** None.

**Long term ambitions:** To see my family grow up happy and keep away from Kenny Wilson's drives.

## Janusz Przybyla (Polonia, Vic)

**Full name:** Janusz Przybyla (pronounced Yan-oosh P-she-be-wa).

**Birth place and birth date:** Lublin Poland — 19 June 1951.

**Height and weight:** 173cm — 76 kg.

**Status:** married to Ella, two children, Sylvia 9, Sebastian 6.

**Job:** Motor mechanic.

**Home:** St Albans.

**Previous clubs:** Lublinianka 1967-70, Legia Warszawa 1970-72, Gwardia Warszawa 1972-73, Motor Lublin 1973-81.

**Favourite overseas players:** Michel Platini and Zbigniew Boniek.

**Favourite players locally:** Peter Katholos (Sydney Olympic), Alan Davidson (SM-Hellas).

**Most difficult opponent locally:** Stuart Cannell (Green Gully).

**Favourite all-time great:** Johann Cruyff.

**A rising star locally:** Andrew Zinni (Juventus).

**Boyhood heroes:** Pele and Garincha.

**Team you supported when young:** Ajax Amsterdam.

**Favourite other team:** Gornik Zabrze (Polish 1st Division).

**Other favorite sports:** Basketball.

**Most admired sports person:** Irena Szewinska — Polish Olympic medalist Tokyo, Mexico and Montreal.

**Most memorable match:** As a 17-year-old, Polish FA Cup semi final playing with 2nd Division Lublinianka vs Gornik Zabrze (1st Division) drawing first leg a home — losing return 4-2 and scoring all three goals for Lublinianka.

**Biggest disappointment:** Injuries during 3 years at Polonia and not winning this year's State League championship.

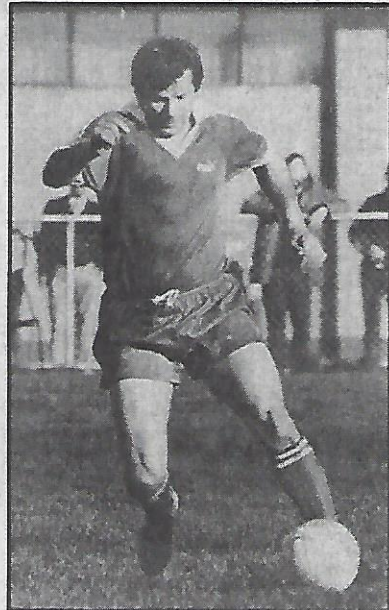
**International honours:** Berlin UEFA Tournament Polish U/18 squad; Polish U/21 Squad (6 caps) v Czechoslovakia, Norway, Romania etc.

**Club honours:** Legia Warszawa Polish champions; Motor Lublin Polish 2nd Division champions; Polonia — 1984 Buffalo Cup.

**Hobbies:** Fishing, Motor cars.

**Favourite show business personality:** Rod Stewart.

**Favourite music:** Rock.



Janusz Przybyla — joint top scorer in the Victorian State League.

**Favorite TV Show:** Rock around the world with Basia Bonkowski on Network 0/28.

**Biggest influence on career:** Miroslaw Litwin, coach of Lublinianka (later, goalkeeper of Polonia in late 60s early 70s).

**Superstitious Pre-match habits:** No super-

sitions but blesses himself prior to each match.

**1984 ambitions:** Dockerty Cup with Polonia and top goal — scorer award.

**Long term ambitions:** continue playing as long as possible, better luck with injuries eventually to coach locally to pass on experience, tactics and skills to younger players.

# Havelange has made the World Cup truly global

Those of you who do a lot of soccer reading will have come across that splendid British monthly magazine, "World Soccer," and thereby its celebrated columnist Brian Glanville.



BRIAN GLANVILLE

Mr Glanville, for whose elegant writing style I as a journalist have the greatest admiration, is one of those writers whose experience, ability and status give him a rare licence to fill his copy with mere opinions where and how he pleases.

And popularity, too, in a magazine whose readers recently gave him their vote as their favorite columnist.

Others, clearly the minority as far as "World Soccer" readers are concerned, might argue that Mr Glanville has a nauseating penchant for criticising the same things and the same people all of the time.

He likes to jab away at his pet hates relentlessly. If he were writing for an Australian paper he would be readily described as a "hinger".

In the current issue of "World Soccer," Mr Glanville delivers another eloquent broadside at one of his pet hates: FIFA and particularly

its president, Joao Havelange.

Senior Havelange recently completed his first 10 years as FIFA boss. He has been in office, as Brian Glanville prefers to put it, "since he and his Third World friends combined to defeat Sir Stanley Rous in Frankfurt in 1974."

Reacting to a bagful of self-congratulations that appeared in FIFA's house journal, Glanville adds that "Havelange has sold it down the river to the Afro-Asians and their ilk."

Of one of Havelange's innovations, he says: "The World Youth championship is a repugnant aberration, trusting young and vulnerable players far too early into competition."

He rattles on, saying that the Olympic football tournament has been "especially grotesque" and that the "X-team World Cup has been a monstrous mistake."

And while he's at it, there was the "deplorable affair of

the 1986 World Cup" when it was awarded to Mexico, and the "huge disappearing sums of money" after the 1982 finals in Spain.

Methinks he protesteth too much, though not in the same way that Shakespeare meant it.

Methinks he's a trifle patriotic, too, and the proof of the pudding might be in one of his concluding observations: "Since the going of (Sir Stanley) Rous ten years ago, the British voice in world councils has been the merest whisper, and it hasn't had much to say in Europe either."

Now, a Briton might join Mr Glanville under the flag and object to that, but an Australian doesn't have to and this one certainly doesn't.

World football and FIFA, to be sure, have very big problems but I doubt whether British counselling is the way to their salvation.

Forgive the Third World bias, but I don't believe the 24-team World Cup is in any way a mistake nor that Senior Havelange got his presidency in an improper way.

Like Bob Hawke or Margaret Thatcher, or any other poli-

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Joao Havelange

tician seeking election, he travelled his electorate canvassing votes, promising to do the right thing by them when elected.

In this sense Sir Stanley Rous, under whose presidency football was no paradise either and during which the ugly era of percentage soccer was allowed to fester, was dumped not by Havelange but by the people.

And the 24-team tournament was not a mistake, save for those who irk at the sight of Cameroon, Algeria or New Zealand, and for a handful of journalists who might find it difficult to work in an iron lung, much less cover a tournament that goes on for three weeks.

While World Cup qualification continues on a geographical basis, and a universal contest based purely on merit remains financially impractical, I see nothing morally wrong in giving Third World nations six places in the finals and the encouragement that brings to their football.

On the contrary, when 70 per cent of FIFA's member countries are from the Third World and are allocated only 25 per cent of the places in the finals, one wonders from where the



Sir Stanley Rous

moral arguments should come.

But I wouldn't mind Mr Glanville's passion for polemics so much if he didn't appear to see the soccer globe as a world of wars where continents and nations have to fight to exert their influence . . .

And if he didn't keep so quiet about the practices of one nation while so loudly condemning the trespasses of others.

Where was he when, long before the Falklands war, Argentina's captain Antonio Rattin was sent off for nothing and England won its quarter final against ten men?

And where was he when Sir Alf Ramsay, that architect of the most boring and physical team ever to win the World Cup, said the Argentinians played like "animals" — the most ill-mannered break with sports protocol and utterance which spawned a long-time favorite chant for hooligans?

But it is a global game and, for all his faults and apparent vanity, I can't criticise Joao Havelange for having, as Brian Glanville puts it, interests that most emphatically do not coincide with those of Europe.



Steve Jackson (left) and Ron Millman with their Queensland press awards. Pictures by CARLOS PICASSO.

## Jackson honored

Steve Jackson and Ron Millman have won the top Queensland Press awards for 1984.

Jackson, the Brisbane Lions defender, was voted Queensland's NSL Player of the Year, and Millman, formerly of Lions and now with Ipswich United, added the State League Player of the Year award to the Rothmans Medal he had won earlier.

Gordon Arrowsmith was voted Queensland of the year, for taking Brisbane Lions into the NSL finals.



Gordon Arrowsmith (left) of Brisbane Lions accepts his award as Queensland coach of the year from Queensland Soccer Federation president Ian Brusasco.

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## Olympic v. Hellas, National final at Olympic Park tonight (V)

## Hellas first, then it's Asia says Schaefer

SKILL AND FLAIR  
TO WIN IT  
FOR OLYMPIC?

Sydney Olympic coach Manfred Schaefer would welcome the challenge of meeting New Zealand champion Gisborne City, should Olympic win the Australian title.

Gisborne has thrown down the gauntlet to Australia in a bid to determine which is the best team in Oceania (see page one).

"That's what soccer is all about," Schaefer said. "It'd be even better if we could organise an Asian club championship, with say, the Oceania winner meeting the winners from Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore and so on."

"They have such competitions in Europe, so why not here?"

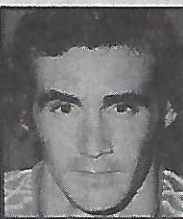
As for the national final, Schaefer draws confidence from the fact that his team is undefeated for three and a half months, apart from the loss on penalties to Sydney Hakoah in their semi-final, but he has yet to decide on his team.

Up front, he has to choose three men from among Jim Patikas, Nick Theodorakopoulos, Mark Koussas, Marshall Soper and Chris Kalantzis.

Soper has a nasty gash, but scored nevertheless after coming on as a substitute against

Hakoah in the grand final last Sunday. "He's in international class, there's no doubt about it," Schaefer said of his talented striker. "But all the players are in tremendous form at the moment, and any combination I put on the park will be firing on all cylinders."

Gary Phillips has come good at the right time, playing a big part in victories over Hakoah and Marconi in the finals. "I dropped him when I moved Peter Katholos back into the midfield, because Gary was out of form. Later, though, he's done everything right, and in fact he's been a match-



Gary Meier



Manfred Schaefer

winner for us," Schaefer said.

Peter Raskopoulos has emerged as a mature, inspiring leader and in Schaefer's opinion, he is the best team captain he's seen since Johnny Warren captained Australia.

And he believes that Peter Katholos and Tony Dakos should be in the national squad.

"I spoke to national coach Frank Arok about both of them, but for some reason, Arok didn't want a bar of them, which is a great pity, because both have so much to offer."

"Katholos has been outplaying all opponents in midfield. He's got a great urge to play for the national team, he's thoroughly dedicated and he shows week in, week out, just how hungry he is."

"Tony Dakos is as elegant, as brilliant a sweeper as you'll find anywhere, and he's deadly when he comes forward. He could have scored two against Hakoah in the final."

And what about Olympic's longest-serving player, Gary Meier, who

has been with the club for 13 years? "He's been around for so long, that even I played against him," said the former St George and Soccerroo star.

"Gary's had a top season. His height is a great advantage, of course, and not many crosses get past him, but apart from that, he's got everything you look for in a goalkeeper. He's also benefited from the coaching of Jim Fraser this year."

Fraser was goalkeeper in the national team and at St George.

There's a lot of talent in Olympic's back line, as well. "Mike Coady marked John Kosmina in 240 minutes of football during the two finals matches, and put him completely out of business. Graham Jennings did the same to Grant Lee," Schaefer said.

But he's not concerned with man-marking as he prepared to meet Hellas — or else he's not letting on. Asked whether he'd play defensively in the first leg, in Melbourne tonight (Wednesday), Schaefer said: "It would be much better to win, wouldn't it?"

"If I were to put too many restrictions on my players, I would be committing suicide, because when you've got guys with the skill they've got, then you let them use it. That's what the fans love to see."

During the finals, Olympic's players have been together every day except Fridays, for training and matches, which has done wonders for team unity.

For tonight's (Wednesday's) match, Olympic will arrive before lunch and stay in a hotel at Middle Park.

And if Olympic succeeds in winning the championship, it will be Schaefer's greatest achievement since going to West Germany with the Soccerroos for the 1974 World Cup finals.

At 41, he's still fighting fit and, indeed, still trains with his players. Until recently he played for and coached a Sydney amateur team, SISIL, to two grand finals and a premiership.

## Standings

Here's how Hellas and Olympic finished in the NSL in each year they competed:

1977: Hellas 11th, Olympic 12th.

1978: Hellas 3rd, Olympic 8th.

1979: Olympic 13th, Hellas 14th.

1980: Hellas 3rd, Olympic played in NSW State League.

1981: Hellas 2nd, Olympic 9th.

1982: Hellas 6th, Olympic 8th.

1983: Hellas 4th, Olympic 7th.

1984: Hellas 1st in National Conference, Olympic 2nd in Australian Conference.



• Sydney Olympic from left, standing: Marshall Soper, Jim Patikas, Tony Dakos, Alex La Peter Wilson, Mark Koussas. Front: Terry Petalis, Chris Kalantzis, Marty Rogers, Peter R. Gary Phillips. Missing: Gary Meier, Peter Katholos, Mike Coady, Nick Theodorakopoulos.

## IT'S ON TV

• Channel 0/28 will show highlights of both legs of the national final. Half an hour of tonight's (Wednesday's) match will be shown at 11pm tonight, and the Sunday game in Sydney will be shown at 7.30pm that night.

## Schaefer lost 'title' to Hellas in 1976

Olympic coach Manfred Schaefer coached the St. George Budapest team that took on Hellas home and away, for an unofficial Australian championship back in 1976. The teams had won their respective State Leagues.

Hellas came out on top, winning 2-1 in Melbourne after a 1-1 draw in Sydney.

Details of those two games: ST GEORGE BUDAPEST 1 (Mendez) HELLAS 1 (Cummings) in Sydney.

St George: Co — Utjesenovic, Coton, J. O'Shea, Williams — Harris, Grosse, Echeverria — Abonyi, Morgan, R. O'Shea.

Subs: Mendz, Jankovics.

HELLAS: Kennedy — Kalifatidis, Xanthopoulos, Walker, Hagemanoul — Daperis, Andrews, Mackay, Bourne — Cummings, Armstrong.

HELLAS 2 (Hagemanoul, Kalifatidis) ST GEORGE BUDAPEST 1 (Abonyi) at Olympic Park.

HELLAS: Kennedy — Kalifatidis, Xanthopoulos, Walker, Hagemanoul — Daperis, Andrews, Mackay, Bourne — Cummings, Armstrong.

## Won Cup in '83

Sydney Olympic won the 1983 National Cup, beating Heidelberg-Alexander 1-0 both in Sydney and Melbourne, in a two-leg final.

Details, with player ratings out of 10:

OLYMPIC 1 (Patallis) HEIDELBERG 0 at St. George Stadium, crowd 6240.

Olympic: Meier 7 — Herbert 8, Coady 8, Dakos 8, Jennings 8 — Patikas 8, Phillips 9, Katholos 8 — Patallis 9, Soper 9 (Rogers 82nd), Kalantzis 7.

Heidelberg: Oliver 10 — McKie 7, Yankos 8, Macleod 8, Campbell 7, Valentine 8 — Lea 6, Cole 6, Patterson 8.

HEIDELBERG 0 OLYMPIC 1 (Patallis) at Olympic Park, crowd about 6000.

Heidelberg: Oliver 8 — McKie 7, Yankos 7, Macleod 8 (sent off, 89th), Tansey 8 Selemdis 8, Campbell 7, Valentine 6 — Cole 6, Lea 6, Patterson 6.

Olympic: Meier 8 — Herbert 8, Dakos 9, Coady 9, Jennings 8 — Patikas 7, Phillips 8, Katholos 7 — Patallis 7, Soper 7, Koussas 7.

## THE SC

## SM-HELLAS

- |                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| 1. Peter Laumets      | 1 |
| 2. Bobby Russell      | 2 |
| 3. Alan Davidson      | 3 |
| 4. Steve Blair        | 4 |
| 5. Kris Kalifatidis   | 5 |
| 6. Carl Halford       | 6 |
| 7. Oscar Crino        | 7 |
| 8. Charlie Egan       | 8 |
| 9. Doug Brown         | 9 |
| 11. Ken Murphy        | 1 |
| 12. John Yzendoorn    | 1 |
| 13. John Kanesoulis   | 1 |
| 16. Con Kiakos        | 1 |
| 17. Angie Postacoglou | 1 |

## Off to Sydney at

• Alan Davidson will marry his fiancée Carol on Saturday, and fly to Sydney the following morning to play against Olympic in the second leg of the national final.

And his parents Keith and Kazuko, also will travel to Sydney so see Alan play in Australia for possibly the last time.



Alan Davidson

## SPORTS AT THE

The National Conference Sunday was highlighted by of sportsmanship during

Near the end of the match, with jubilation, Alan Davidson left almost Kanesoulis.

Davidson had asked to be replaced, in match, for it was Kanesoulis who had returned to the team.

And on Monday morning, Hellas's Chair a bottle of champagne.

"It was only right. They'd come so close

## MIDFIELD HO

Alan Davidson expects the two legs of the national final to be determined in midfield, and he's a little apprehensive about Olympic's Schaefer-inspired fitness.

"It'll depend on who gets on top in the midfield, because both teams have quite formidable players there," Davidson said.

"But Olympic's fitness also will be hard to overcome."

"A lot of the team against seemed to die. Olympic gets stronger which is a tribute to style training early in battle right to the end."

Davidson and Peter friends, and if Katholos he'll be in direct opposition could develop into one game."

"I'm confident we're Davidson said. "We've

## ALL THE FINALS

## NATIONAL CONFERENCE

BRISBANE LIONS 4 (McDonagh, J. Stewart, R. Stewart, Cairney) JUVENTUS 2 (Sweeney 2).

MELBOURNE CROATIA 2 (Lewis, Brogan) HEIDELBERG-ALEXANDER 1 (Peterson).

SM-HELLAS 3 (Brown 2, Yzendoorn) MELBOURNE CROATIA 2 (Gojevic, Cumming) after extra time.

HEIDELBERG-ALEXANDER 0 BRISBANE LIONS 0, Heidelberg won on penalties 3-2.

HEIDELBERG-ALEXANDER 3 (Stevenson 3) MELBOURNE CROATIA 1 (Brogan penalty).

SM-HELLAS 4 (Crino 2, Davidson, Yzendoorn) HEIDELBERG-ALEXANDER 2 (Peterson, Stevenson) — grand final.

## AUSTRA

APIA-LEIC (Morsello) BL after extra time.

SYDNEY (MARCONI) APIA-LEIC

Bozanic pen (Jankovics) at penalties.

SYDNEY SYDNEY OL time. Hakoah

SYDNEY 0 zia, Patikas) SYDNEY

SYDNEY HA



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Wednesday) at 8 pm and St George Stadium, Sunday, 3 pm.



LAURIE SCHWAB

## Skills galore and one hell of a clash, says Egan

The national final between Hellas and Olympic in Melbourne tonight (Wednesday) and Sydney on Sunday will be the most exciting game of the season, because of the abundance of creative players in both teams.

So says Hellas striker Charlie Egan.

"There'll be an endless supply from both sets of midfielders to the strikers," he said.

"It's no good either team trying to play defensively, because who would you mark? There'll be so many good players out there, you'd finish up with 11 marking 11."

"If we marked Peter Katholos, Marshall Soper and Jim Patikas, how could we leave Peter Raskopoulos, Mark Koussas and Gary Phillips unattended? And by the same token, if Olympic sets out to mark us, they'll have to put men on Doug Brown, Oscar Crino, Alan David-

son, Kenny Murphy, Carl Halford — the lot!

"Instead, they should be exciting, open, attacking games and if I were a spectator, I'd make sure of being there. You wouldn't get two better games anywhere."

"I think we'll win, though, because we're a better organised team, they haven't beaten us in three years, and they seem to rely quite heavily on the individual things that fellows like Katholos or Soper may come up with."

"It'll be easier than playing against Sydney Hakoah, because Olympic gives you more opportunities to play soccer. And Olympic hasn't got hard men like Yankos, Macleod, Parton and Lewis, who we've had to come up against in



South Melbourne Hellas, after winning the National Conference championship. Standing, from left: Angie Postecoglou, Steve Blair, Len McKendry (coach), Charlie Egan, Oscar Crino, Ken Murphy, Carl Halford, John Kanesoulis, Alan Davidson. Front: Bobby Russell, Doug Brown, John Yzendoorn, Peter Laumets, Jim Diamantaris (club official). Picture by LES SHORROCK.

previous finals matches."

Egan praised the fighting effort of the Heidelberg team — especially that of midfielder Mike Petersen. "He's an exceptionally talented young player, with great skill, and he certainly can hit a ball," Egan said.

By the same token, Oscar Crino had a fine game for Hellas in midfield, and indeed, he has been Hellas' match-winner in the past two outings. But Egan asks the fans to examine the reasons for Crino's good form.

"While Carl Halford was out injured, Crino wasn't playing all that

well, but now that Carl's back, Crino has more freedom because Halford takes the defensive duties in midfield," Egan said.

"In every attack, Crino has the ball, but when it comes to defending in the midfield, it's Halford who does it. He was everywhere against Heidelberg — in front of our back four one minute, and then supporting the strikers the next minute. He's really one of the unsung heroes of the National League. So too is Bobby Russell, who's got to be the hardest man in the league to get past. It's unbelievable the amount of work he does."

And Egan also singled out Steve Blair for praise.

"He's got to be the best centre half in Australia — barring none," Egan said. "Take your pick of the best, and Steve is better. He's young, he's fast, he's unbeatable in the air, powerful in the tackle, and he's already played 16 games for Australia. It's said that he's not in the current national squad. Talking about the national squad, Hellas and Heidelberg had the tightest defences in our conference, yet the only defender from those two teams who will be on the world tour, is Charlie Yankos."

Egan believes that

playing at Olympic Park will help rather than hinder Olympic. "The pitch will be like Wembley compared with St. George Stadium, so that should suit Olympic's ball players. It suits us too, though, so you'll see a lot of skilful play."

"But apart from the skill, we can play it hard as well, if we have to."

"Juventus killed us early in the season and that game taught us a lesson. If the opposition wants to kick, we'll kick. If they want to play, we'll play. We've learned to be like Liverpool, who can kick as well as play football. That's what's made Sydney Hakoah such an effective side."

## JADS

NEY OLYMPIC  
ary Meier  
lartyn Rogers  
raham Jennings  
ony Dakos  
ichael Coady  
ary Phillips  
eter Raskopoulos  
m Patikas  
arshall Soper  
eter Katholos  
Mark Koussas  
Terry Patalis  
Robert Naumov  
Chris Kalantzis  
Nick Theodorakopoulos  
Alex Lambropoulos

## ter the wedding

Davidson's appearances in the two final matches will be his last before jetting off to England to join Nottingham Forest, where he replaces former England international Viv Anderson. The best wishes of all soccer supporters in Australia will go with him.

## ANSHIP FINAL

ce grand final last two shining examples d after the game.

ans on the pitch celebrating Hellas' noticed, to be replaced by John

or to give Kanesoulis a run in the big dropped to make way for Davidson's

Egan sent Heidelberg's Don Macleod

Egan said.



Charlie Egan

## DS THE KEY

ve've been playing the second half, but the game goes on, after's commando season. It'll be a

bolos are the best of as on the left side, a Davidson. That he highlights of the

take out the title," more experienced

players than Olympic and having come this far, we won't let the title slip away."

About the threat posed by Marshall Soper, Davidson said: "He's a very hard man, but we've got hard men like Bobby Russell and Steve Blair who can take care of him."

The pairing of Hellas and Olympic is ideal, he says. "They're the biggest clubs from Melbourne and Sydney respectively, and a final between the two is the best thing that could have happened to Australian soccer. It's unfortunate that the game in Melbourne is on a Wednesday night, but I'm still confident we'll have a big crowd."

## ATCHES

AN CONFERENCE  
ARDT 3 (Butler, Genovese,  
KTOWN CITY 1 (McLaughlin)

MPIC 2 (Phillips, Koussas)  
we) after extra time.  
ARDT 3 Bertogno, Colaguiri,  
ARCONI 3 (Sharna, Brown,  
extra time, APIA won 4-3 on

TY HAKOAH 1 (Gomez)  
PIC 1 (Katholos) after extra  
in 4-2 on penalties.  
MPIC 3 (Raskopoulos, Kalant-  
A-LEIGHARDT 0.  
YMPIC 2 (Soper, Coady)  
AH 1 (O'Connor — grand final)

## Olympic hasn't won in three years!

Sydney Olympic has failed to beat South Melbourne Hellas for the past three years, since Olympic was promoted back into the NSL.

Olympic was relegated at the end of 1979, when it finished second last, yet Hellas, which was in last place, was retained by the NSL!

Olympic's only two games against Melbourne opposition this year were against Melbourne Croatia, and it lost both of them, 1-3 in Sydney and 1-2 in Melbourne.

Hellas's only NSW opponent this year was Sydney Hakoah, and both matches resulted in scoreless draws.

Details of games be-

tween Hellas and Olympic over the past three years:

1981: Olympic 2 (Laing, Koussas) Hellas 2 (Christopoulos 2 incl. pen); Hellas 1 (Evans) Sydney Olympic 1 (Raskopoulos).

1982: Sydney Olympic 1 (Koussas) Hellas 2 (Evans 2); Hellas 2 (Egan, Blair) Olympic 1 (Katholos).

1983: Hellas 3 (Brown, Egan, Blair) Olympic 1 (Katholos).

1983: Hellas 3 (Brown, Egan, Murphy) Olympic 0; Olympic 0 Hellas 2 (Halford, Egan).

Coaches of Olympic and Hellas since the NSL started in 1977:  
**HELLAS**

1977: Manny Poulakakis, Con Xanthopoulos, John Margaritis

1978-79: Dave MacLaren

1979: Duncan McKay

1979-82: John Margaritis

1982: Tommy Docherty

1983: Rale Rasic

1983-84: Len McKendry

**OLYMPIC**

1977: Bruce Stowell, Kaz Kulak

## COACHES GALORE

1978: Tommy Anderson, George Gibson

1978-79: Joe Marston

1979: John Xipolitis

1981: Tommy Docherty

1981-82: Doug Collins

1982: Lubo Gokovic

1983: Tommy Docherty

1983-84: Manfred Schaefer

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# ADIDAS



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No other country's soccer development will be under greater scrutiny during the next decade than that of the People's Republic of China, for obviously this nation of 1,004 million has immense potential, now that it is taking the game seriously.

Australia will play four games in China next month — the first on November 3, against the A national team. China, already holds a special place in soccer history, for the ancient Chinese ritual of *tsu chu*, first recorded around 2,500 BC, is the earliest known form of primitive football from which the modern sport gradually evolved.

Association football is believed to have been introduced to China through the British Treaty Ports (Shanghai, Ningpo, Amoy, Hong Kong and Canton) in the 1800s.

Within 20 years, soccer had established itself as a recreation among the more affluent, particularly students.

After the revolution of 1911 — 12, which resulted in the overthrow of the Manchu dynasty and formation of a republic, a nationwide organization was created and an international side selected.

On February 4, 1913, China made its debut in Manila during the first Far East Games and lost 1-2 to the Philippines. That was the first international played on Asian soil.

Revenge was well and truly gained. China won each of the next nine soccer titles between 1915 and 1924 at the Far East Games, in which the Philippines, Japan and the Dutch East Indies also competed, although the latter two only sporadically.

Universities formed the backbone of Chinese soccer during this period, with Tsingtao, Nanyang, Soochow, Canton Christian, Hong Kong and South Eastern among the strongest.

China's earliest venture outside its own region came in 1936, when its team travelled 5,000 miles by sea, before being by a creditable 2-0 scoreline to Great Britain in the Berlin Olympics.

The Second World War delayed the next Olympic Games until 1948. When they were finally held, China once more made a disastrous voyage, this time to London and again was restricted to one match, as Turkey eliminated the Chinese 4-0 in the first round.

The communists' takeover in 1949 prompted a complete re-organization of soccer. The first major development was the start of a national championship five years later.

Unfortunately, politics restricted international contact.

China withdrew from FIFA in protest at Taiwan's admission and was to remain outside the world body for 24 years.

Thus, for almost a quarter of a century, the Chinese were restricted to rare, unofficial fixtures during which they occasionally gave indications of having a useful team.

In 1958 defeats were inflicted upon Hungary's Olympic selection and Swedish champion Djurgården.

However, of diplomatic relations with Warsaw Pact countries and FIFA's growing intolerance of members playing non-

# Soccer world eyes China, the awakening giant

## Australia to play four games there



By PAUL MOON

members resulted in China being confined solely to the odd outing against Albanian sides throughout the early 1960s.

Then came the Cultural Revolution. From 1966 to 1970, soccer was all but outlawed.

Its revival came in time to play a significant role in the so-called "ping pong diplomacy". Between 1971 and 1977, Chinese teams met opposition from 50 countries.

Yet, the matter of Taiwan's membership seemed an insurmountable barrier to any early return to the FIFA fold until the Asian Confederation forced the issue by illegally expelling Taiwan in 1976, following which mainland China duly joined FIFA four years later.

The People's Republic made its World Cup entrance in 1981 but stated its main objective was the 1984 Olympic finals.

It came as a major surprise then, when China so very nearly qualified for Spain.

Some excellent performances in the qualifying series, including a 3-0 victory over Kuwait, seemed to have secured China a berth in the Mundial, only for New Zealand to achieve an astonishing 5-0 win in Saudi Arabia, which enabled the Kiwis to match China in points tally and goal difference.

China's squad was hastily reassembled to prepare for the play-off in Singapore. It lost 1-2, despite the New Zealanders being totally overrun during the last half hour.

The imagination of China's vast population appeared to have been captured during the World Cup campaign, which was enthusiastically followed in the glow of a million television sets.

Multitudes of Chinese youngsters were reported to be buying soccer equipment. Previously very much a minority interest, soccer almost overnight became the nation's fifth most popular participation sport — which it remains today — behind table tennis, basketball, athletics and swimming.

The government was inundated with pleas from all sections of society to do its utmost to improve standards.

China's soccer officials could feel elated

that, because of the World Cup, the masses had become soccer oriented. What's more, their team seemed well on target to achieve the major goal of appearing in Los Angeles.

Alas, the loss of key, experienced players through retirement proved too great a handicap in the first stage of the Olympic qualifiers, as the Chinese were eliminated by Thailand and South Korea.

With hindsight, the decision to cancel the 1983-84 national championship to focus attention upon the National Games tournament could be said to have had an adverse effect, as the players lacked match fitness.

The National Games tournament is held every four years and the qualifying rounds involve the country's top 32 clubs, which are reduced to 12 by the time the 15-day-long Olympic-type festival starts.

At the Games, the surviving dozen are divided into four groups of three, with the top two from each section progressing to the knockout stage.

Thus, finalists Shanghai and Guangdong had only 10 competitive games during the entire season, including five in the preliminary rounds.

In a normal season both, as members of the 12-team National Championship A Division, would play 34 times, for China's top domestic competition has a conventional, two-round league format.

Two aspects however are far from conventional. Firstly, draws are eliminated. Should teams be even after 90 minutes, extra time is played and then, if the score remains level, penalties decide who gets the two points.

Also, only teams from the same region play each other on the traditional home-away basis. These from different regions meet during half a dozen week-long mini-tournaments in Guangzhou, Kunming, Chongqing, Beijing, Tianjin and Shenyang. This reduces the cost and inconvenience of extensive travelling.

Another interesting innovation for the 1984 campaign, which ended on September 12, was

the inclusion of China's B team in the A Division.

Over the 24 seasons to date, the Beijing-based army team August First has been the most successful, with five titles to its credit.

Below the A Division is a B Division of 16 clubs and a C Division of 20 clubs, as well as a competition for youth teams ("Cup of Hope") and one for junior teams ("Cup of the Sun").

In recent years, a difference in the styles of southern teams and those from the north has emerged.

Southern sides, the best of which are Shanghai and Guangdong, rely largely on mobility and short, deft passing, while the northerners prefer long passes out of defence, loose attacks upon forward, pacy wingers and are robust in their approach. Prominent exponents of this mode are Beijing, August First, Liaoning and Shandong.

The national side has embraced the northern style and it is significant that China's most impressive players of recent years have been wingers.

SV Hamburg sought Guangdong for some time and Li Hunjun was named the best forward of the 1983 Coca Cola World Youth Tournament.

Unfortunately, the lack of aggressive central strikers with flair has nullified the wingers' brilliance. Perhaps the success in China's tactics, for currently they tend to be too predictable in attack to extend any defence of international calibre.

Ideally, the two prevailing styles would be blended, but this requires the skills of a truly outstanding coach.

Despite the admirable strides taken in recent years, China is still naive in many areas and will need much dedication and forbearance to catch the developed nations.

But patience and tenacity are among the foremost Chinese virtues and, now, it has signalled its desire to progress, the People's Republic seems likely to make its presence felt in the future.

Just how far into the future that will be may depend upon whether or not China has the desire or ability to recruit skilful coaches from abroad.

Short tours by visiting teams are no longer really important. Long-term coaching programmes conducted by efficient personnel are.

Despite all the razzamattaz concerning China's sojourn overseas and trips to the People's Republic by various club sides, China has met European national teams in full international only four times.

In the first, in 1952, Liechtenstein beat China 2-0.

In the current calendar year, China has lost to Iran (0-1) and Rumania (1-4 and 0-1).

Those two single-goal defeats suggests China will provide the Soccerworld with stiff challenges on the Australians' visit next month.

But, away from the international arena, Football Association of the People's Republic of China officials are making efforts to increase the number of soccer fields in the nation from the current 5,085 (one per 200,000 people). Their success or failure will probably have a greater bearing on China's ultimate role in international soccer than any match result during the next 10 years or so.

Despite its population, adequate facilities and coaches must be acquired before China's promise is realised.

## Herbert to join Doc at Wolves

Former Sydney Olympic personnel Ricki Herbert and Tommy Docherty seem likely to join forces again. Herbert is reported to have agreed to a two-year contract with Wolverhampton Wanderers, Docherty's current club, and should sign during the Kiwis' current tour.

● The Liverpool v Independent Toyota Cup clash will be played on December 16 in Tokyo.

● Ex-England defender Colin Todd, 35, has joined Luton Town after being released by Vancouver Whitecaps.

● Former Liverpool, Everton and Ipswich Town striker David Johnson has also returned to England, having signed for Preston North End from Tulsa Roughnecks.

● In a surprise transfer, England striker Cyril Rudge moved from West Bromwich Albion to Coventry City. The fee is reported to be \$60,000.

● Merely three weeks after pleading he would remain with Watford, Maurice Johnston joined Celtic in a \$800,000 transfer.

● Eintracht Brunswick's dilemma at the end of the season was the Bundesliga. First division was underlined when it crashed 10-0 at Borussia Mönchengladbach.

● The Italian Federation is to sue the magazine which carried claims by Cameroon players that they were bribed to avoid winning a 1982 World Cup game against the eventual winners.

● Kim Wright, who toured Australia with New Zealand's under 15 team in 1983, is the first winner of the Ken Strong Memorial Scholarship and as a result will serve an apprenticeship with English First Division club Chelsea.

● UEFA has announced that the 1985 European Cup final will be played in Brussels.



## SOCCER AROUND THE WORLD

### Pele on Brazil's slump

RIO DE JANEIRO, Pele, the retired superstar of soccer, said in a published interview here that Brazilian soccer was in a slump because of the country's "political and financial crisis".

"All the problems of Brazilian soccer at the moment, affected by austerity measures, budget cuts and the nation's 213 percent inflation, said it did not have the money to make the real repairs.

Pele, whose real name is Edson Arantes do Nascimento, praised the work of Edou, coach of the national team and Rio's Vasco da Gama club. And he criticised the tendency of Brazilians to blame the coach when the team did not win.

"Edou is a hope. He is doing a good job on Vasco," Pele said. "Here in Brazil, the coach is replaced as soon as the first negative results occur."

Rio's Maracana stadium, the world's largest, was partially closed to the public recently after serious structural faults were discovered.

But the state government, affected by austerity measures, budget cuts and the nation's 213 percent inflation, said it did not have the money to make the real repairs.

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"Edou is a hope. He is doing a good job on Vasco," Pele said. "Here in Brazil, the coach is replaced as soon as the first negative results occur."

## Racist taunts fire up British blacks

From ROBERT MILLWARD

LONDON, black soccer star John Barnes is hailed as a hero whenever he pulls on an England shirt and represents his country.

But at club matches, Barnes and Watford teammate Luther Blissett become targets for racial and often obscene abuse from supporters of the opposing team.

Arsenal's Viv Anderson and Coventry City's Cyril Rudge suffer the same fate — almost as soon as they touch the ball.

These players, all England internationals, are among a crop of talented British blacks having to withstand offensive taunts from the terraces as they strive to reach the top of an already highly competitive profession.

The rude remarks and gestures come from a minority of the crowd but can be heard by the barracked players and supporters.

English first division team Newcastle United, recently expressed his disgust at his side's so-called fans after a section of the crowd had showered abuse on Bobby Barnes, a black player in the visiting team, West Ham.

Barnes, no relation to World's Joke, also suffered the indignity of having banana skins thrown at him whenever he got near the off-putting group of supporters.

In a defiant response, he joked: "I don't really like bananas. I would have much preferred watermelons."

A union leader responded to the Bobby Barnes incident by calling upon players to go on strike. He suggested that players ought to walk off the



Luther Blissett

field if a black teammate was subjected to racial abuse from the terraces.

The strike call came from Tom Burlison, a former English first division team Lincoln City defender, who is chairman of the English North Regional Trades Union Congress.

Burlison's idea was rejected by the players' own union, the Professional Footballers' Association. Ironically, its assistant secretary is Brendan Batson, a first division professional for nine seasons who was born on the West Indies' island of Grenada.

Batson, a former Arsenal, Cambridge and West Bromwich player, said: "It would increase the notoriety of these (racist) groups because that is just what they're after. They want to see the black players off the pitch."

In his reply to Burlison, Batson pointed out the danger of the union leader's proposed move.

"I wrote to him saying that for us to tell players to leave the pitch if a group of the fans becomes aggressive would be the wrong response."

Declaring that "black players have proved themselves," Batson added that "in a perverse way the terrace taunts have helped. It has built character in a very demanding profession. Weak character will never make it in this game."

"Racist taunts are something that black players have grown up with. When I began playing in the late 1960s there weren't many black players in the league. If they reacted then in the way some people think they ought to be reacting now, you wouldn't see many of them in the game," said Batson.

Twelve years ago there were only 10 black players in the English first division. Since that time 22 black players have played for England at senior, under 21 and youth levels.

"But black players now put up with a lot. I must say it has got worse over the last five years," Batson continued.

"There used to be a friendly banter coming from the fans, but now it seems more intense. But I don't think it would deter black players in any way. They used to throw bananas at me too, but it never affected me."

Batson said, however, that he would like to see action from the law enforcement agencies if black players came under physical threat from soccer followers.



# VICTORIAN DOCKERTY CUP with Craig MacKenzie and Ken Kontra

## Thomastown shocks Morwell Falcons

**THOMASTOWN 2 (DiMartino 21st, Dallas 57th) MORWELL FALCONS 1 (Cassar 52nd). Caution: Moore (Falc). Venue: Jubilee Park. Crowd: about 600 (double header). Red card: Cassar (Falc). Referee: Peter Spiers.**

Well, the shock of the season did occur! Underdog Thomastown convincingly defeated State League champ Morwell Falcons, proving once again that anything can happen in a Cup match, which is perhaps the major attraction of this type of competition.

There was no fluke about Thomastown's victory either. It was the better team on the day, and thoroughly deserved to advance to the semi-finals at the expense of the well-performed Latrobe Valley outfit.

What makes Thomastown's win even more remarkable is the fact that this was its second game within 24 hours, having defeated North Dandenong 2-1 in the Division One Top Four competition on Saturday.

Following this victory, coach Joe Wilson's team must take a chance in the semi-finals, and any team taking

Thomastown lightly, will regret it!

Perhaps the most significant factor in the match was Thomastown's unexpected midfield dominance. Morwell's stars Jim MacLean and Steve Moore had little influence on the game and were outgunned by Nino DiMartino, Brian Coyle, Frank Dallas and Morris Comar.

DiMartino in particular, had a great game, scoring a good goal, and generally being involved both in attack and defence to advantage.

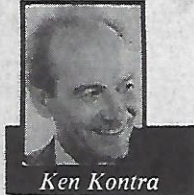
Here are the highlights: In the 6th minute, Effie Cassar's angled shot just misses the target.

Six minutes later John O'Callaghan heads Chris Kent's cross against the cross bar.

In the 21st minute, Thomastown takes the lead. Frank Fragale released DiMartino, whose angled shot from 10 metres beats Billy Whiteside.

Keeper Mario Raponi tips Russell Athersych's shot over the bar in the 29th minute.

Seven minutes into the



Ken Kontra

second half, Morwell equalises. Cassar latches on to a bouncing ball and plants a sizzling first time shot past Raponi from 30 metres!

In the 57th minute DiMartino battles hard on the left to gain a corner, he takes it himself, and Dallas rises high to head past Whiteside to regain the lead.

With 11 minutes remaining, Cassar has words with alinesman and is given his marching orders by Referee Peter

Spiers, but this had little influence on the final result, as Thomastown looked quite capable of retaining the lead in any case.

**WESTERN SUBURBS 3 (Dimovski 2nd, Coyle penalty 26th, Lazopoulos 76th) CROYDON 2 (Griffiths 61st & 88th). Cautions: Howe (WS), Brewerton, Singleton (Croy). Venue: Jubilee Park. Crowd: about 600 (double header). Referee: Jim Fearn.**

Western suburbs went to an early lead when Croydon's defence failed to pick up Steve Dimovski at the far post following a quickly taken free kick in the second minute.

A 26th minute penalty converted by Keiron Coyle did not help Croydon's cause either, and perhaps due to these early setbacks, it never developed a rhythm and looked unsettled for most of the match.

Western Suburbs on the other hand at least managed to put some passes together and

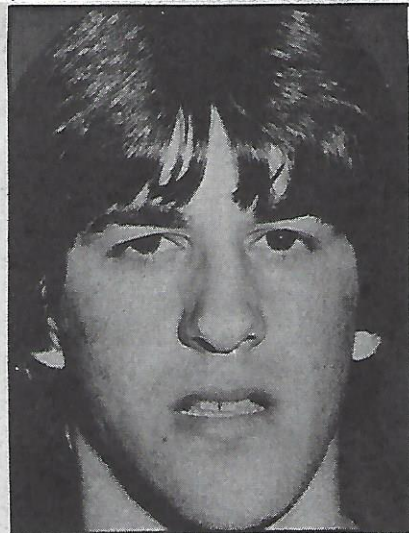
generally looked better organised.

Suburbs' danger man, Bill Lazopoulos, was well contained by Mark Brown, restricting him to one scoring chance. Lazopoulos, however, made the most of it, and planted a firm header past keeper Lou Kastner from a Steve Kakantonis cross in the 76th minute.

Tommy Brewerton, Brown and Graham French missed a couple of chances before Dave Griffiths finally scored direct from a corner kick in the 61st minute. His inswinger caught the Suburbs' defence napping, and the ball just squeezed inside the far post.

With the score at 3-1, French intercepted a loose back pass. His shot was charged down, but Griffiths was on the spot to put it away with keeper Rocky Tachiris well out of position.

In injury time, Griffiths tried one from outside the area, but his dipping shot was a fraction too high.



Thomastown midfielder Morris Comar

## FAWKNER, POLONIA TO TRIUMPH!

"I don't think that anyone can stop Polonia now. I doubt that the other semi-finalists can get near them. To come back from 2-0 down against us was an outstanding effort, the way we played."

That's Box Hill coach Bill Murray summing up Polonia's Dockerty Cup chances. If Murray is right, then the brave fight put up by Metro Division One outfit Thomastown, which knocked State League champ Morwell out of the Dockerty Cup last weekend, is about to end, for Thomastown meets Polonia in the first game of Sunday's Dockerty Cup double header at Olympic Park No. 1.

The Thomastown-Polonia match starts at 1 pm. Surely Polonia has too much class for the Metro outfit. Then again, I thought the same about



Craig Mackenzie

Morwell's chances in the quarter-finals.

Striker Brendan Lakic, who transferred from Polonia to Thomastown earlier this year, gets his chance to show his old side what he can do. Lakic's main strength is his tremendous running ability

but provided Polonia coach John Gardiner is fit (he had a tooth knocked out in last weekend's 3-2 win over the Hillmen) will Lakic and former Preston Make-donia forward Brian Flaherty, be able to pierce the well drilled Polonia defence?

I doubt it. But it's going to be interesting to see what game plan Thomastown coach Joe Wilson comes up with. Wilson obviously will be worried about Polonia's attacking flair but a lot of people at Thomastown have about defender Tony Cosentino and his battle with Polonia ace Janusz

Przybyla could be a match highlight.

The second semi-final is a toss-of-the-coin affair between Fawcner and Western Suburbs.

Quite a few eyes will be on Suburbs winger Bill Lazopoulos, rumored to be joining South Melbourne Hellas next season. His clash with Gary Hobson will be vital to the outcome of this semi for Lazopoulos has the pace and control to get in behind the Fawcner defence and put it under the hammer.

Fawcner appears stronger in midfield where the experience and competitiveness of Peter Boyle and Ged Bannon are pitted against former Hellas player Steve Kakantonis and former Sunshine player Frank Mussel.

The Boyle-Kakantonis confrontation will be well worth watching. Neither knows how to take a backward step, both are fiery customers on the park, and there seems certain to be plenty to talk about after their battle here.

It's up front that Fawcner holds the edge. Joe Palinkas, Ian Tuffield and Neil Garvey are in fine form and their dust-up with Hugh Howe, Billy Hamill and Steve Dimovski should see the Fawcner trio emerge on top.

So it's a Polonia v Fawcner final for mine.

With my recent run of outs that means that Thomastown and Suburbs are cert!

**OLYMPIC PARK NO. 1, SUNDAY**

Polonia V Thomastown at 1pm, followed by Fawcner V Western Suburbs

**Przybyla is top scorer**

Janusz Przybyla of Polonia has won our VSF Travel Club award as the leading scorer in the 1984 Victorian State League.

Przybyla and Box Hill's Steve Smith were locked together on 23 goals at the end of the league season so we decided to include all State League Cup and Dockerty Cup goals to break the deadlock. Box Hill bowed out of the Dockerty Cup last weekend with Przybyla and Smith still deadlocked. They've scored 26 goals.

However, in the event of a tie, we were going to settle the issue by including all Buffalo Cup goals scored earlier this year. Przybyla scored a barrow-load of goals in the Buffalo Cup and even if he fails to score again in the Dockerty Cup, he'll still win our award thanks to his Buffalo Cup haul.

'Soccer Action' congratulates the Polonia striker on winning the VSF Travel Club award. His prize is a return trip to Singapore, flying Thai International.

**Sunicrust Cup**

Sunicrust Cup results: Under-11: Clarinda 0 SM-Hellas 1 Hawthorn 2; Keon Park 1 Northcote 2; Northcote 0 Clarinda 1. Under-12: Keon Park 0 SM-Hellas 1; Western Suburbs 0 Eastcote 8. Under-13: Keon Park 0 East Richmond 2; Northcote 0 SM-Hellas 6. Under-14: Western Suburbs 2 SM-Hellas 2. Under-16: SM-Hellas 1 Doncaster 1.

The finals in all the above age groups will be played at Middle Park on Sunday, November 4. Here are the fixtures, with kick-off times: Under-11: Clarinda v SM-Hellas at 10 am. Under-12: SM-Hellas v Northcote at 11.15 am. Under-13: East Richmond v SM-Hellas at 12.30 pm. Under-14: Northcote v SM-Hellas at 2 pm. Under-16: SM-Hellas v Northcote at 3.45 pm.

## ALL MATCH DETAILS

### AT KIM RESERVE

**FAWKNER 2 (Garvey 30th, Giacomi 80th) ST ALBANS DINAMO 1 (Brkljacic 85th). Dockerty Cup quarter-final, Sunday, Double header.**

**FAWKNER:** Terzini 7 — Giacomi 7, Fattore 7 (inj), Sannipoli 82nd, Macleod 7, Hobson 7 — Bannon 7, Bole 8, Angelo 7 — Palinkas 8, Tuffield 8 (inj), Palmariotti 80th, Garvey 8, Coach: Gus Macleod. **ST ALBANS DINAMO:** Debeljuh 5 — Kuzman 8, Bozic 7, Kustura 7, Ramjak 7 — Rastocic 7, Brkljacic 8, Pevlovic 7, Dezic 6 — Radman 5, Morovic 6, Coach: Joe Spoljar.

**BOX HILL 2 (Hughes 28th, penalty 55th) POLONIA 3 (Gilder 65th, 105th, Petrov 80th) after extra time. Dockerty Cup quarter-final, Sunday, Double header.**

**BOX HILL:** McKinlay 8 — McPhee 7 (inj), Hennessey 107th, Brownlie 8, Brooks 7, A. Rodhouse 7 — Hughes 8, I. Rodhouse 8, Underwood 7 — Verechia 7, Priestley 7 (inj), Azzopardi 103rd, Smith 8, Coach: Bill Murray. **Polonia:** Fryszar 7 — Liparski 8, Gardiner 7 (inj), Vonge 85th, McCuskey 7, Smolarek 7 — Mitten 8, Trent 7, Gibson 7, Kolaric 7 (Petrov 70th) — Gilder 8, Przybyla 7, Coach: John Gardiner.

### AT JUBILEE PARK

**WESTERN SUBURBS 3 (Dimovski 2nd, Coyle Penalty 26th, Lazopoulos 76th). CROYDON 2 (Griffiths 61st & 78th). Dockerty Cup quarter final, Sunday, Double header.**

**WESTERN SUBURBS:** Tachiris 8 — Methew 7, Dimovski 7, Howe 8, Hamill 8 — K. Coyle 8, Kakantonis 7, Mussels 8, Lazopoulos 7, Stenson 7 (Diliberto 89th), Filipis 7 (Ovgrinac 87th), Coach: Jim Condliffe.

**CROYDON:** Kastner 7 — Ormond 7, Marshall 6 (Bates 7 half time), Singleton 7, Brown 8 — Brewerton 8, Kerr 7, Griffiths 61st & 78th, French 6 (Vladimirov 88th), Coach: Peter Ollerton.

**THOMASTOWN 2 (DiMartino 21st, Dallas 57th) MORWELL FALCONS 1 (Cassar 52nd). Dockerty Cup quarter-final, Sunday, Double header.**

**THOMASTOWN:** Raponi 7 — DiBerardino 7, Cosentino 8, Aceski 9, Constantinou 7 — Dallas 7, Dumar 8, DiMartino 9 (Arcoraci 89th), B. Coyle 8 — Fragale 7 (Wales 59th), Lakic 8, Coach: Jim Wilson. **MORWELL FALCONS:** Whiteside 7 — Bingham 6, Higham 7, Bruns 6, Train 7 — Cassar 6 (sent off), Moore 6, MacLean 6 — Kent 5 (Van Bear 58th), Athersych 7, O'Callaghan 6 (Lee 83rd), Coach: Jim Dunnie.

## Last chance for Top Four finals berths

First Division club Melbourne and Second Division champ Mornington are the only sides certain of finals berths in the VSF Centenary Top Four competition for Metro League clubs.

With one round of the round-robin competition remaining, first and second spots (and qualification for the finals) are up for grabs in Third and Fourth Division. In First and Second Division, the battle for second spot holds most interest.

Here are last weekend's results, with standings, and the draw and venues for this Saturday's final group of round-robin games:

### DIVISION ONE

Results: Thomastown 2 North Dandenong 1, Melbourne 1 Springvale City 0.

Standings	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Melbourne	2	0	0	2	0	4
Thomastown	1	0	1	2	2	2
North Dandenong	0	1	1	3	4	1
Spring City	0	1	3	3	1	1

Saturday's games, at Lois Twong Reserve, North Dandenong: North Dandenong v Melbourne at 1 pm, followed by Springvale City v Thomastown.

### DIVISION TWO

Results: Caulfield 2 South Oakleigh 2; Mornington 4 Sandringham 2.

Standings	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Mornington	2	0	0	7	3	4

Results: Essendon Triestina 3 Royal Richmond 0, Yallourn 2 Hamlyn Rangers 1.

### DIVISION THREE

Results: Essendon Triestina 3 Royal Richmond 0, Yallourn 2 Hamlyn Rangers 1.

Standings

Standings	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
E. Triestina	1	1	0	6	3	3
Yallourn	1	1	0	3	2	3
Hamlyn R.	0	1	1	4	5	1
Royal Rich.	0	1	1	1	4	1

Saturday's games, at Grange Reserve, Clayton: South Oakleigh v Sandringham at 1 pm, followed by Mornington v Caulfield.

### DIVISION FOUR

Results: Springvale United 0 Clifton Hill 0; Yarraville 2 East Brunswick 2.

Standings

Standings	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Spring, Utd.	1	1	0	2	1	3
Yarraville	0	2	0	3	2	2
Clifton Hill	0	2	0	1	1	2
E. Brunswick	0	1	1	3	4	1

Saturday's games, at Yallambie Reserve, Yallambie: Clifton Hill v East Brunswick at 1 pm, followed by Yarraville v Springvale.

The Leader Cup is a joint venture of the three outer-eastern State League clubs — Croydon City, Knox City, and Ringwood Wilhelmmina and Leader Associated Newspapers, publishers of the area's local newspapers.

Croydon and Knox won the right to play-off for the Leader Cup and prize money. The finalists were selected after a triangular qualifying series based on the three clubs' State League results against each other.

The senior Leader Cup final will kick-off at 7.55 pm, preceded by a reserves Leader Cup final, also between Croydon and Knox, which kicks-off at 6.30 pm.

Admission to the Cup final will be \$3 for adults,

### Bale banned

Fiji soccer captain Bale Ranaiga has been banned from the national team after retaliating when New Zealand Grant Turner punched him in a match in Suva last Thursday.

Fiji Football Association president Kari Pal Singh said all Fiji players who throw punches in two brawls between the two teams in last week's two games, which he described as New Zealand-inspired, will face disciplinary

\$1 for pensioners, and children are admitted free.

### Roo girls win

Italy and Japan have joined Australia and the U.S. to compete in the semi-finals of the Xian International women's soccer tournament in China.

Italy took an easy victory over China's Guangxi 9-0 to take first place in the group standing with three wins.

In another keenly-contested match, Japan came from behind to beat China's Liaoning led 1-0 at half time.

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**Victoria**  
**FINAL STANDINGS**  
**STATE LEAGUE**

	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Morwell Falcons	18	8	2	49	15	40
Polonia	15	7	1	41	17	37
Fawkner	15	6	5	41	35	36
Sch. Hill	11	8	4	44	32	32
Norchester City	12	10	4	47	37	32
Western Suburbs	11	4	14	44	46	26
Warrnambool	9	7	10	42	35	25
Williamstown	7	11	8	34	35	23
Albion Rovers	7	11	8	34	35	23
Albion Rovers	7	11	8	34	35	23
Knox City	8	12	35	58	22	22
Croydon City	9	2	28	39	20	20
St Albans	6	12	30	51	20	20
Brookmans	7	16	35	52	18	18
Dromedary	4	6	29	48	14	14

**UK soccer scores and tables**

**ENGLISH LEAGUE**  
**DIVISION ONE**

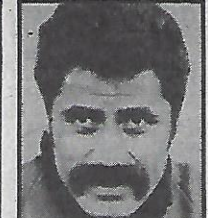
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Arsenal	1	11	1	1	25	13	25
Manchester United	2	10	2	2	23	13	22
Liverpool	3	9	3	3	20	18	21
Chelsea	4	8	4	3	19	18	20
Manchester City	5	7	5	3	18	18	19
Blackburn	6	7	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Wed	7	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	8	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	9	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	10	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	11	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	12	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	13	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	14	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	15	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	16	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	17	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	18	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	19	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	20	6	4	4	18	18	19

**Group five qualifying match in Breda, Holland**  
**Group five standings:**

	Pts
Netherlands	10
Hungary	8
Cyprus	6
Austria	4

**Group five standings:**

	Pts
Netherlands	10
Hungary	8
Cyprus	6
Austria	4



Arthur Peters

# After three appeals, no dice!

**Lavington's jovial**  
**Fijian centre forward**  
**Arthur Peters' long**  
**running wrangle with**  
**the Albion-Wodonga**  
**tribunal concluded**  
**another and hope-**  
**fully the last chap-**  
**ter last Wednesday**  
**night.**

Peters, who is noted for his good-humoured style on the field, little to laugh about since switching from north-eastern club Warrnambool to Albion Wodonga. A double send-off involving Peters and city scholarship boy Tudor in a top-of-the-table clash last year was hotly disputed. After a pre-season blow-up where the game was abandoned by referee Justin Randel, Peters was asked to explain his role in the spectacle. Peters was again cleared of charges but coach Rick Porter raised a few eyebrows when he claimed that referee Randel was much too young and could not possibly hope to control a fight.

The season seemed to be coming together OK for Peters with no more than a caution or two and a bag of goals as his team had its best year for some time. It was during the major semi-final against arch-rival City that Peters lost concentration and was cited for violent conduct.

Thus began one of the most drawn-out appeals in the history of the AWSA. Not happy with being outed and thereby on the shelf for the Cup final Peters appealed to the AWSA but was turned down. He then called for a meeting with the referee. Association, claiming discrimination. Yet another rebuff did not deter Peters who then marched off to NSWAF Riverina branch which, in turn, said no. Still on the boil, Peters served notice on the NSWAF that he wanted a hearing and at last things started to look brighter for the intrepid Arthur Peters.

Sydney was benevolent with him and on a technicality ordered a rehearing of the tribunal. That was the good news. The bad news for Peters is that the reconstituted tribunal endorsed the original finding and solemnly declared "A. Peters suspended, one game." Right back where we started. While all this drama was unfolding, the 1983 AWSA Cup winner Albion City made it a double. In a forgettable season for the AWSA, it won the trophy for the sixth time while Arthur Peters watched from the sideline and pondered on what 1985 might bring.

— BILL GRAHAM

**RESERVES**

	Pts
Polonia	18
Bay Hill	12
Croydon City	14
Morwell Falcons	13
Fawkner	15
Sch. Hill	12
Norchester City	12
Western Suburbs	11
Warrnambool	9
Williamstown	7
Albion Rovers	7
Albion Rovers	7
Knox City	8
Croydon City	9
St Albans	6
Brookmans	7
Dromedary	4

**ENGLISH LEAGUE**  
**DIVISION TWO**

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Arsenal	1	11	1	1	25	13	25
Manchester United	2	10	2	2	23	13	22
Liverpool	3	9	3	3	20	18	21
Chelsea	4	8	4	3	19	18	20
Manchester City	5	7	5	3	18	18	19
Blackburn	6	7	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Wed	7	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	8	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	9	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	10	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	11	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	12	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	13	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	14	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	15	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	16	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	17	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	18	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	19	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	20	6	4	4	18	18	19

**ENGLISH LEAGUE**  
**DIVISION THREE**

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Arsenal	1	11	1	1	25	13	25
Manchester United	2	10	2	2	23	13	22
Liverpool	3	9	3	3	20	18	21
Chelsea	4	8	4	3	19	18	20
Manchester City	5	7	5	3	18	18	19
Blackburn	6	7	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Wed	7	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	8	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	9	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	10	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	11	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	12	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	13	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	14	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	15	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	16	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	17	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	18	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	19	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	20	6	4	4	18	18	19

**ENGLISH LEAGUE**  
**DIVISION FOUR**

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Arsenal	1	11	1	1	25	13	25
Manchester United	2	10	2	2	23	13	22
Liverpool	3	9	3	3	20	18	21
Chelsea	4	8	4	3	19	18	20
Manchester City	5	7	5	3	18	18	19
Blackburn	6	7	4	4	18	18	19
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Sheff Utd	11	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	12	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	13	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	14	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	15	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	16	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	17	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	18	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	19	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	20	6	4	4	18	18	19

**ENGLISH LEAGUE**  
**DIVISION FIVE**

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Arsenal	1	11	1	1	25	13	25
Manchester United	2	10	2	2	23	13	22
Liverpool	3	9	3	3	20	18	21
Chelsea	4	8	4	3	19	18	20
Manchester City	5	7	5	3	18	18	19
Blackburn	6	7	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Wed	7	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	8	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	9	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	10	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	11	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	12	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	13	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	14	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	15	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	16	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	17	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	18	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	19	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	20	6	4	4	18	18	19

**ENGLISH LEAGUE**  
**DIVISION SIX**

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Arsenal	1	11	1	1	25	13	25
Manchester United	2	10	2	2	23	13	22
Liverpool	3	9	3	3	20	18	21
Chelsea	4	8	4	3	19	18	20
Manchester City	5	7	5	3	18	18	19
Blackburn	6	7	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Wed	7	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	8	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	9	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	10	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	11	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	12	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	13	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	14	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	15	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	16	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	17	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	18	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	19	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	20	6	4	4	18	18	19

**ENGLISH LEAGUE**  
**DIVISION SEVEN**

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Arsenal	1	11	1	1	25	13	25
Manchester United	2	10	2	2	23	13	22
Liverpool	3	9	3	3	20	18	21
Chelsea	4	8	4	3	19	18	20
Manchester City	5	7	5	3	18	18	19
Blackburn	6	7	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Wed	7	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	8	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	9	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	10	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	11	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	12	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	13	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	14	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	15	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	16	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	17	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	18	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	19	6	4	4	18	18	19
Sheff Utd	20	6	4	4	18	18	19

**RESERVES**

	Pts
Polonia	18
Bay Hill	12
Croydon City	14
Morwell Falcons	13
Fawkner	15
Sch. Hill	12
Norchester City	12
Western Suburbs	11
Warrnambool	9
Williamstown	7
Albion Rovers	7
Albion Rovers	7
Knox City	8
Croydon City	9
St Albans	6
Brookmans	7
Dromedary	4

Carlisle	10	8	7	1	1	26
Cardiff	10	7	7	3	1	28
Colchester	10	7	5	3	1	26
Doncaster	10	6	8	3	3	26
Exeter	10	6	1	4	5	20
Grimsby	10	6	1	4	5	20
Leeds	10	6	0	5	5	20
Lincoln	10	5	5	2	4	21
Manchester	10	4	3	4	4	18
Millwall	10	4	3	4	4	18
Northampton	10	4	3	4	4	18
Sheff Wed	10	4	3	4	4	18
Sheff Utd	10	4	3	4	4	18
Southend	10	4	3	4	4	18
Stoke	10	4	3	4	4	18
Swindon	10	4	3	4	4	18
Tottenham	10	4	3	4	4	18
Wolves	10	4	3	4	4	18
Wrexham	10	4	3	4	4	18
Yeovil	10	4	3	4	4	18
York City	10	4	3	4	4	18
Yorkshire	10	4	3	4	4	18
Yorkshire	10	4	3	4	4	18
Yorkshire	10	4	3	4	4	18
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Yorkshire	10	4	3	4	4	18
Yorkshire	10	4	3	4	4	18
Yorkshire	10					



# Albury-Wodonga round-up with BILL GRAHAM

## CANBERRA BELTS BORDER MEN 8-0

Canberra Arrows, minus Tony Franken, Frank Farina and George Christopolous, led an Albury-Wodonga invitation side a merry dance in a challenge match played in Albury last week.



Arrows boss Doug Collins who had some explaining to do in the A.C.T. boardroom after a pre-season hiding dish out to his lightweight selection by the Border City sought and got his revenge.

Predicting, and getting, an 8-0 win, Collins turned a fit and determined squad loose in front of a large and appreciative crowd.

The Albury outfit showed plenty of enthusiasm and cheek for the first 15 minutes until a handball penalty gave the Arrows their first score.

The Arrows then took to their task of entertaining the crowd to some fast, open football, highlighted by the hard running, precise passing game that kept the local lads guessing.

With young City players Mark Alavuk and Bora Vjestica enjoying the luxury of playing with the Arrows, interest focused on the performances of local players.

As anticipated Nick Andronicos, Dirk Grutzmacher, Steve Bland and Paul Milynn showed that with similar opportunity they would easily make National League status.

Peter Veneris was as reliable as ever at right back but had his socks rolled down much earlier than in local games.

Teenage goalkeeper George Galanakis remained composed behind an often stretched backline and stuck to his task manfully.

The local players put up a grand fight to the finish and in doing so earned the applause of the crowd at the final whistle.

Much can be learned from a challenge such as this. Fitness was the obvious difference between the sides but also the patterns of play show an adherence to a static, old-fashioned style of game while the National League team displayed more mobility.



Canberra Arrows' Phil Reis takes the ball away, pursued by Albury City sweeper Dirk Grutzmacher (left).

## Andronicus tops again

Albury City captain and ace midfielder Nick Andronicos (pictured) made it two in a row when he won the Albury-Wodonga Star Player award.

Andronicos received nine first votes to lead the count by nine points from second placed Bob McBurnie. Final tally being Andronicos 33 McBurnie 24.

It is extra rewarding for the popular City captain as he also led his team to back-to-back Cup victories in 1983 and 1984, making it six Cups out of eleven for Albury City.

Highly fancied Dirk Grutzmacher polled poorly, much to the surprise of tipsters.

Lavington's McBurnie lost ground when team-mate Arthur Peeters picked up several first votes with good form in mid-season.

As forecast, Paul Milynn, the fast-developing youngster from Diamonds served notice for future medals with several first votes to finish high in the count.

Other youngsters to poll well are Paul Iannotta (City) Pat Campbell (West) Phil Allen (Wangaratta) and E. Baker (Hots-purs).

Andronicos' win was remarkable, considering his City team-mates picked up no less than nine other first votes between them, giving the club 18 'best on ground' performances out of a possible 21.

## Young Roos in Albury

While away in Singapore with the Merkon Cup squad, national youth coach Jimmy Shoulder has deputed Ron Smith to lead the Australian youth team in its matches against a Riverina selection in Albury on October 27 and in Wagga the next day.

The matches, arranged by Wagga promoter Barry Sadler, will command considerable interest among the large soccer community in southern NSW.

Underwritten by Coca-Cola, the promotion has been two years in the making and at last sees a national team out in the 'bush'.

The Riverina team, mounted by Custom Club in Albury and under the direction of former Albury City coach Chico Vojnovic, has drawn on some considerable talent and is expected to perform well against the young Socceroos-to-be.



Goalkeeper Mike Hocking (Inter-Monaro) — to play against the young Socceroos

The boys from the bush have not been idle since the conclusion of the local season and have had matches arranged to keep them in form.

Port Kembla fell victim to the Riverina team 1-0 in a bruising encounter in Wagga two weeks back.

Several of the Riverina stars were in the Albury invitation team thrown in against the Arrows last week.

A final preparation game was played against the AWSA under 21 squad at Diamond Park Wodonga, last Saturday.

## Rep. row to end?

Good news could well be on the way for AWSA juniors regarding their status with Victorian country and State representative squads.

In the past, the NSWASF has been reluctant to allow AWSA — registered players access to Victorian representative teams.

Nevertheless both Mark Alavuk and Steve Mautone have played for Victorian under 13 squads recently and it is known that several other lads are seeking similar selections.

NSWASF vice president Robert Maundrell, who is reported as saying that Mautone will be the last player allowed into a Victorian squad, appears to have softened this line.

Maundrell, speaking at the Albury Wodonga Soccer Association presentation dinner in Albury, indicated support for an easing of the prohibitions.

"I am happy that Steve did so well with the Victorian under 14 team this year," Maundrell said.

"He lives in Victoria and we have supported and encouraged him from the beginning."

Riverina publicity officer Frank Finlay indicated that permission for Mautone to play for his home State was granted at a meeting in June.

"I don't know why there was any hold-up to supporting Steve in representing Victoria but it is common sense that he be allowed to do so," said Finlay.

Team mates and friends of Mautone in other AWSA clubs, while indicating support for him, have expressed the feeling that they now will also have the same privileges.

The consensus appears to be that players disadvantaged by residing on a State border should be given access to both States.

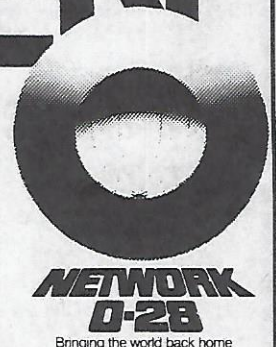
# MORE SOCCER MORE OFTEN MORE ACTION MORE OFTEN

Wednesday: Tonight at 11 pm Highlights of Grand Final 1st Leg  
Sunday October 28: match of the Day Second Leg Grand Final

5.30 Saturday World Soccer.

7.30 Sunday N.S.L. Match of the Day.

Plus live telecasts of International matches from here and overseas.





# I GRECI VINCONO TUTTO IN NSL

Domenica scorsa all'Olympic Park circa 20.000 spettatori hanno assistito alla finalissima del campionato nazionale di calcio, girone "nazionale", fra il South Melbourne Hellas e l'Heidelberg: le due migliori squadre della competizione (finite al primo e secondo posto in classifica) e tutte due petrocinato dalla comunità greca di Melbourne.

A titolo di cronaca, ha vinto il South Melbourne Hellas per 4-2 con l'Heidelberg che aveva retto ottimamente il confronto fino a che non è stato espulso Charlie Yancos il giocatore più importante dello schieramento giallorosso.

A Sydney la finalissima del girone "australiano" è stata disputata fra il Sydney City Hakoah e il Sydney Olympic. L'ha spuntata quest'ultima per 2-1, mettendo fine ad una lunga egemonia del City. Gli spettatori a Sydney erano circa 10.000, e considerando che il City non ha alcun seguito di nota e' facile dedurre che quasi tutti erano tifosi dell'Olympic, un'altra squadra greca.

Tirando le somme ci troviamo quindi con tre squadre greche impegnate nelle finalissime di girone e con quasi 30.000 spettatori di origine greca che hanno assistito alle due partite (naturalmente nessuno e' andato a controllare la nazionalità o l'origine degli spettatori, quindi ci si lasci fare questa considerazione).



John Margaritis ha deciso che il prossimo anno non allenerà la Juventus; sostituirlo però non sarà cosa facile.

erazione ipotetica, ma pur sempre molto probabile. Questa sera a Melbourne e domenica prossima a Sydney la finale nazionale fra le due squadre greche sarà un altro trionfo pieno per gli ellenici. E noi italiani stiamo a guardare!

Questa non è l'amara conclusione basata su pure e semplice invidia, ne' vuole essere una mancanza di apprezzamento per quello che le squadre italiane hanno fatto in questo campionato, poiché sia la Juventus di Melbourne che il Marconi e l'Apia di Sydney hanno raggiunto il torneo finale dei due gironi.

La Juventus specialmente ha compiuto un vero e proprio miracolo finendo quinta nel suo primo anno di competizione nella Lega Nazionale e con una serie impressionante di infortuni senza i quali avrebbe fatto sicuramente ancora meglio.

Quindi tutto sommato le "squadre" italiane non hanno affatto sfigurato. Quelli che hanno sfigurato sono però stati i "tifosi" italiani che non si sono avvicinati minimamente al livello di sostegno morale e materiale che i tifosi greci hanno invece dato alle loro squadre.

A fare un esame approfondito delle ragioni per cui noi italiani non mettiamo lo stesso impegno dei greci nel calcio ci vorrebbe molto tempo e molto spazio e probabilmente non si arriverebbe nemmeno ad una conclusione corredata da fatti validi.

Dire che le squadre italiane non hanno dato i risultati delle squadre greche non è nemmeno completamente vero poiché basta pensare all'Hellas che in otto stagioni in Lega Nazionale prima di quest'anno aveva vinto praticamente niente ed un anno e' stato addirittura relegato e poi riammesso a tavolino.

Dire che il pubblico ed i finanziatori italiani si sono suddivisi fra le tante squadre italiane non è nemmeno un fatto determinante perché la comunità greca ha più o meno (forse più) lo stesso

numero di squadre che abbiamo noi.

E non è nemmeno vero che le squadre greche abbiano più giocatori greci di quanti italiani militino nelle squadre italiane.

Quindi la conclusione più ovvia non può che essere una: i greci sono molto più convinti tifosi di quello che siamo noi; ed anche la comunità greca in generale si impegna di più di quanto non si impegni la comunità italiana per mantenere in vita i suoi club calcistici.

Forse l'unico campo in cui differiamo molto dai greci è che la vita sociale della nostra comunità è molto più impegnativa della loro. Noi abbiamo sicuramente molti più club sociali regionali e paesani dei greci, e questo è un fatto assodato. Ma che esso debba essere necessariamente contrario al successo dell'intera comunità in campo sportivo non è inevitabile, anzi potrebbe addirittura essere l'opposto.

Se, ed è un grande "se", ci fosse veramente interesse dovrebbe essere addirittura più facile per una comunità costì bene organizzata ed identificabile in gruppi regionali e paesani, fare uno sforzo comune per una causa comune.

Negli ultimi anni vari comitati della Juventus di Melbourne hanno chiesto la collaborazione dei social clubs. Nel 1979 la S.M.S. Isole Eolie organizzò un ballo a favore della Juventus di quest'anno, a distanza di cinque anni, un simile interesse è stato dimostrato dal San Marco in Lamis Social Club. Tutto qui da una comunità che si vanta di essere "sportiva" quando vinciamo i campionati del mondo, che crede di essere la più grande comunità etnica d'Australia in termini numerici e in consistenza economica, che è convinta di essere la massima nazione calcistica del mondo!

Dopo il "boom" della Juventus di Melbourne, e in linea generale delle altre

squadre italiane negli anni '50 e '60, generazioni di dirigenti hanno invano sperato di riuscire ad interessare la nostra comunità all'esistenza delle squadre di calcio. In linea generale questo interesse lo si è visto soltanto nei momenti in cui le squadre vincevano, e scompariva quasi totalmente nei momenti in cui le cose in campo non andavano per il verso giusto. Ma per vincere campionati non bastano fuochi di paglia, ci vuole una lunga fedeltà della tifoseria che va alle partite e della comunità in generale che sostiene la squadra in altri modi diversi.

Quest'anno la Juventus ha avuto un numero decente di spettatori solo quando ha incontrato squadre che portavano migliaia di loro tifosi; un piccolo miglioramento nel numero di pubblico italiano c'è stato soltanto quando la squadra vinceva bene ed era prima in classifica, poi gli spalti sono rimasti sempre più deserti.

Il comitato che è in carica alla Juventus da due anni ha fatto un ottimo lavoro, anche se gli imprevisti e la mancanza di esperienza lo ha a volte tradito, nel risanare la situazione economica della società e nel mettere assieme una squadra che ha ben figurato e che, quando poteva disporre dell'intera rosa di giocatori, ha addirittura entusiasmato.

Il pubblico avrebbe dovuto fare la sua parte allo stesso modo, e pur se è triste ammetterlo, non l'ha fatto. Se poi

ci troviamo a guardare quando le squadre greche mettono successi nel massimo campionato possiamo soltanto concludere con il proverbiale "chi dorme non piglia pesce".

C'è solo da augurarsi che le cose migliorino per il futuro e che la comunità italiana che esce in massa a sbandierare i tricolori quando la nostra nazionale vince la Coppa del Mondo o che molto facilmente si associa a tutte le vittorie alle quali non ha contribuito affatto, si metta in mente che se vuole successi nel calcio locale deve guadagnarsi e non starsene con le mani in mano sperando che qualche altro si occupi di costruire la squadra e le vittorie che poi diventano una "gloria nazionale" della quale tutti si "sentono parte".

In questo discorso naturalmente includiamo anche i dirigenti passati presenti e futuri di tutte le squadre di calcio, poiché anche fra i dirigenti ci sono i pesi morti che lasciano agli altri l'onere di mandare avanti il club e si presentano quindi al momento delle celebrazioni (se c'è qualcosa da celebrare).

Ed anche i dirigenti che mettono anima e corpo per la squadra non sono spesso portati ad allargare le loro vedute, a generare interesse intorno a loro, a saper mantenere impegnati nella vita del club i loro predecessori, gli ex giocatori e le migliaia di ragazzi che crescono nelle squadre giovanili e che poi scompaiono dalla circolazione.

## VIVA ITALIA!

with ROCKY DI ZIO



MARGARITIS LASCIA LA JUVENTUS

John Margaritis, il tecnico juventino, ha fatto sapere a comitato e giocatori che il prossimo anno non sarà disponibile per allenare la squadra.

Ufficialmente sembra che Margaritis abbia detto che intende tornare in Grecia per un periodo di tempo illimitato per una vacanza, per impegni familiari e per aggiornarsi sul calcio europeo.

Questo è quello che avrebbe detto, ma non è difficile capire che alla base di questa sua giustificazione ci sia anche una certa dose di insoddisfazione per il modo come è stato trattato dai tifosi e dal comitato nei periodi in cui la squadra ha attraversato periodi difficili.

A nostro giudizio John Margaritis è uno dei migliori tecnici sulla scena australiana al momento e lo ha dimostrato ampiamente anche quest'anno in alcune partite che è riuscito a vincere miracolosamente con una squadra decimata da infortuni e squalifiche; inoltre è cosa risaputissima che egli gode della massima stima dei giocatori.

Come tutti gli allenatori di questo mondo, anzi come tutti gli esseri umani, anche lui ha commesso qualche sbaglio principale mente però in condizioni molto difficili, quando cioè le scelte che gli si presentavano erano praticamente una peggior dell'altra.

Considerando anche la partenza di Margaritis rompera' la continuità di direzione tecnica della squadra e che qualsiasi nuovo allenatore vorrà implementare nuovi schemi che richiederanno nuovi giocatori, pensiamo che la perdita di Margaritis avrà un effetto negativo sul prossimo campionato della squadra. E poi c'è sempre l'eterna domanda "Chi prenderanno al suo posto?" Forse c'è ormai troppo tardi, ma i dirigenti della Juventus farebbero bene a cercare di far tornare Margaritis sulla sua decisione.

DALLS E THOMASTOWN GIUSTIZIANO LE GRANDI

Nelle varie competizioni di coppa che sono attualmente in fase di svolgimento due risultati hanno colto un po' tutti di sorpresa.

Nella prima giornata (o dovremmo dire serata) della Coppa Italia, il Dallas McLeod (terza divisione Provisional League) ha battuto il Fawkner (State League) per 1-0 mettendo così in serio dubbio la possibilità che gli Azzurri di Jukes Road si qualificino per il torneo finale.

A parziale giustificazione dei ragazzi di McLeod va detto che si sono presentati in campo con una formazione imbottita di riserve perché ovviamente cercano di risparmiare i titolari per la competizione di Dockerty Cup, dove hanno battuto il St. Albans per 2-1.

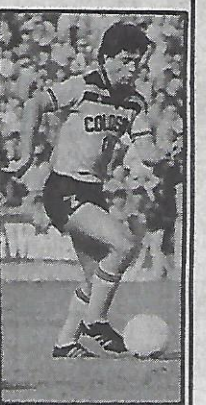
Nella Dockerty Cup altra sorpresa con il Thomastown che ha battuto i campioni del Morwell per 2-1 e che così disputeranno la semifinale contro il Polonia domenica prossima all'Olympic Park (prima partita), mentre nella seconda partita saranno di fronte Fawkner e Western Suburbs.

Va da rilevare però che il Thomastown sabato scorso ha vinto anche la partita di "Top Four" contro il North Danerong per 2-1.

## Focus on the grand final



Hellas captain John Yzendoorn accepts the National Conference championship cup from Tony Kovac (centre) and NSL chairman Sam Papasavas.



Heidelberg captain Theo Selemidis



Hellas fans with an appropriate banner



Hellas goalie Peter Laumetis saves well. Others pictured, from left: Steve Winn, John Yzendoorn, Angie Postecoglou, Alan Davidson.

## Prima Office Furniture

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## FORZA JUVE!









# GR. OF 5 FINALS SHOWDOWN



First Leg, Tonight Wednesday October 24  
Olympic Park, MELBOURNE K.O. 8 pm.

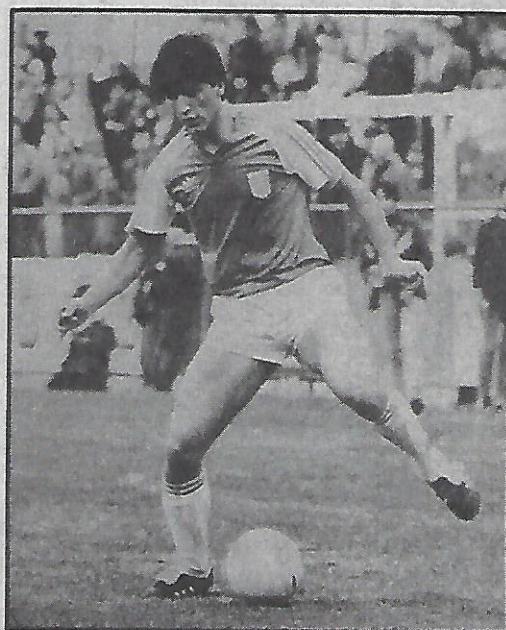
**SOUTH MELBOURNE**

(National Conference Champion)

v.

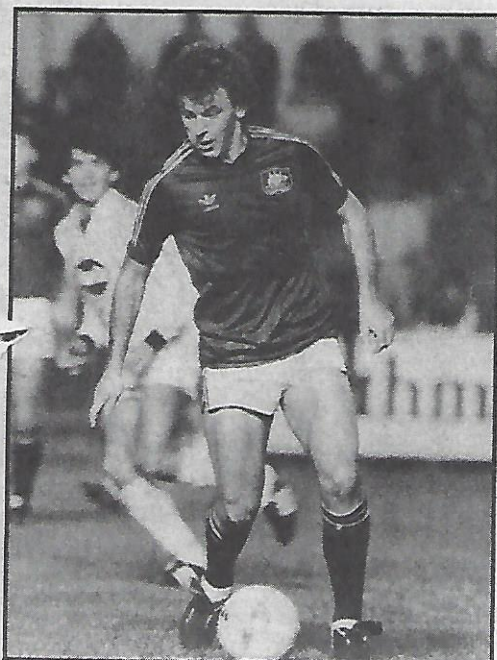
**SYDNEY OLYMPIC**

(Australian Conference Champion)



*Oscar Crino*

Second Leg, Sunday October 28  
St. George Stadium, SYDNEY. K.O. 3 pm.



*Peter Raskopoulos*

**SYDNEY OLYMPIC**

v.

**SOUTH MELBOURNE**

*Preceded by the*

**YOUTH GRAND FINAL**

MELITA EAGLES v SOUTH MELBOURNE

Kick-off 1 pm.